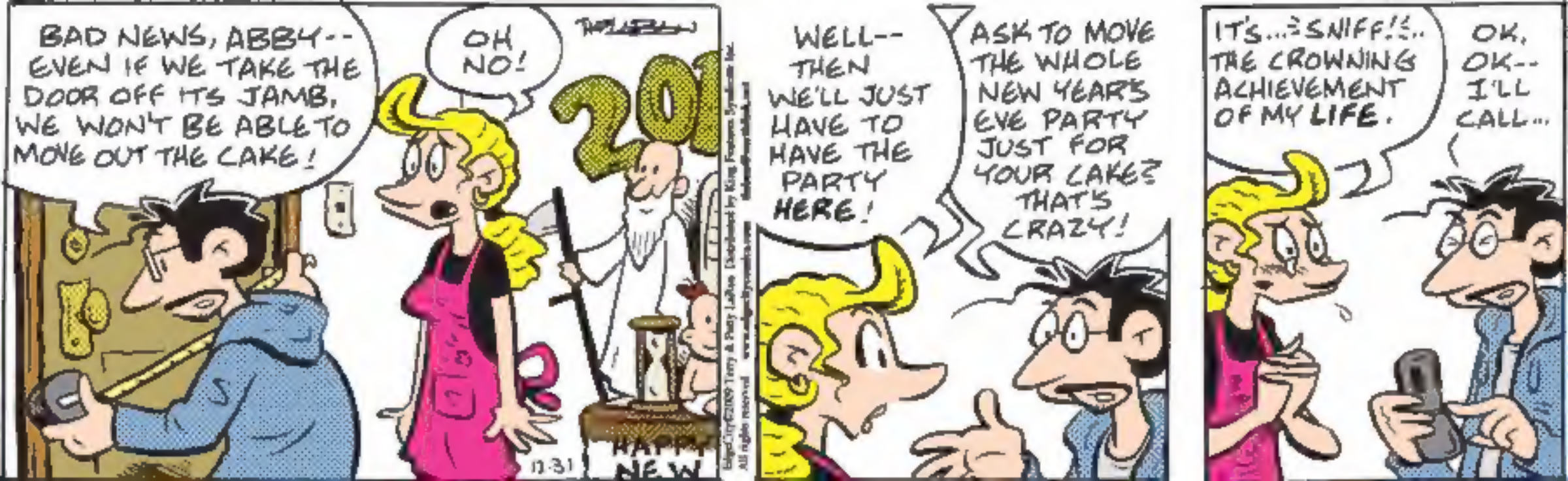
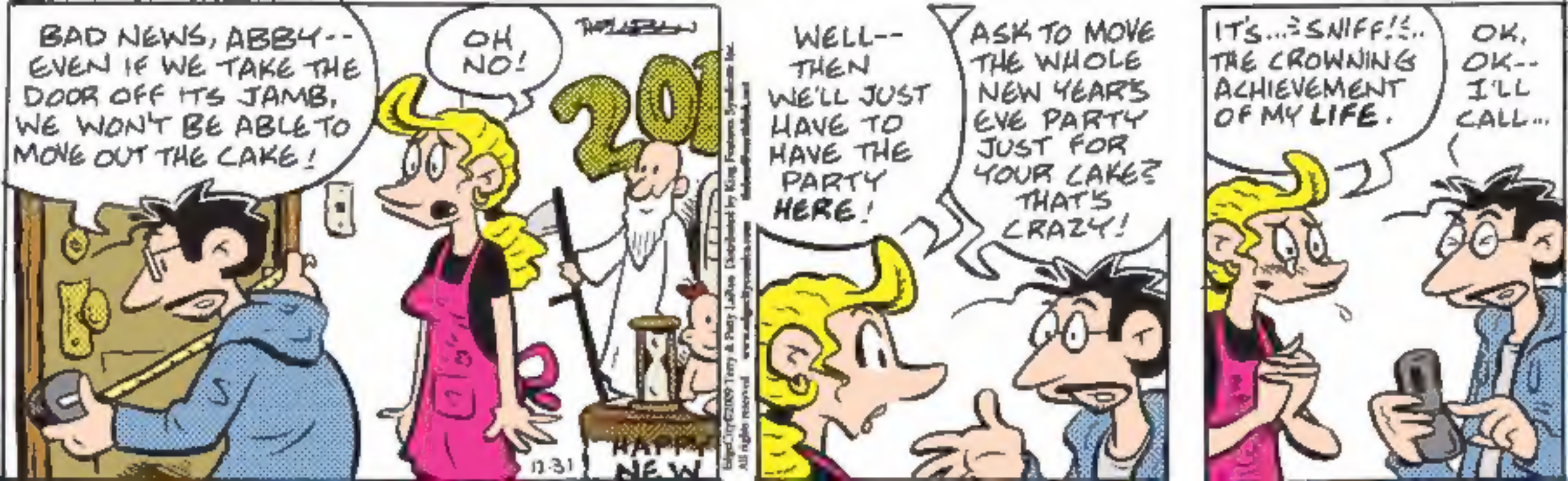

BAD NEWS, ABBY-- EVEN IF WE TAKE THE DOOR OFF ITS JAMB, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE OUT THE CAKE!
OH NO!
2011
12-31
HAPPY NEW
WELL-- THEN WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HAVE THE PARTY HERE!
ASK TO MOVE THE WHOLE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY JUST FOR YOUR CAKE? THAT'S CRAZY!
IT'S...SNIFF!... THE CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT OF MY LIFE.
OK, OK-- I'LL CALL...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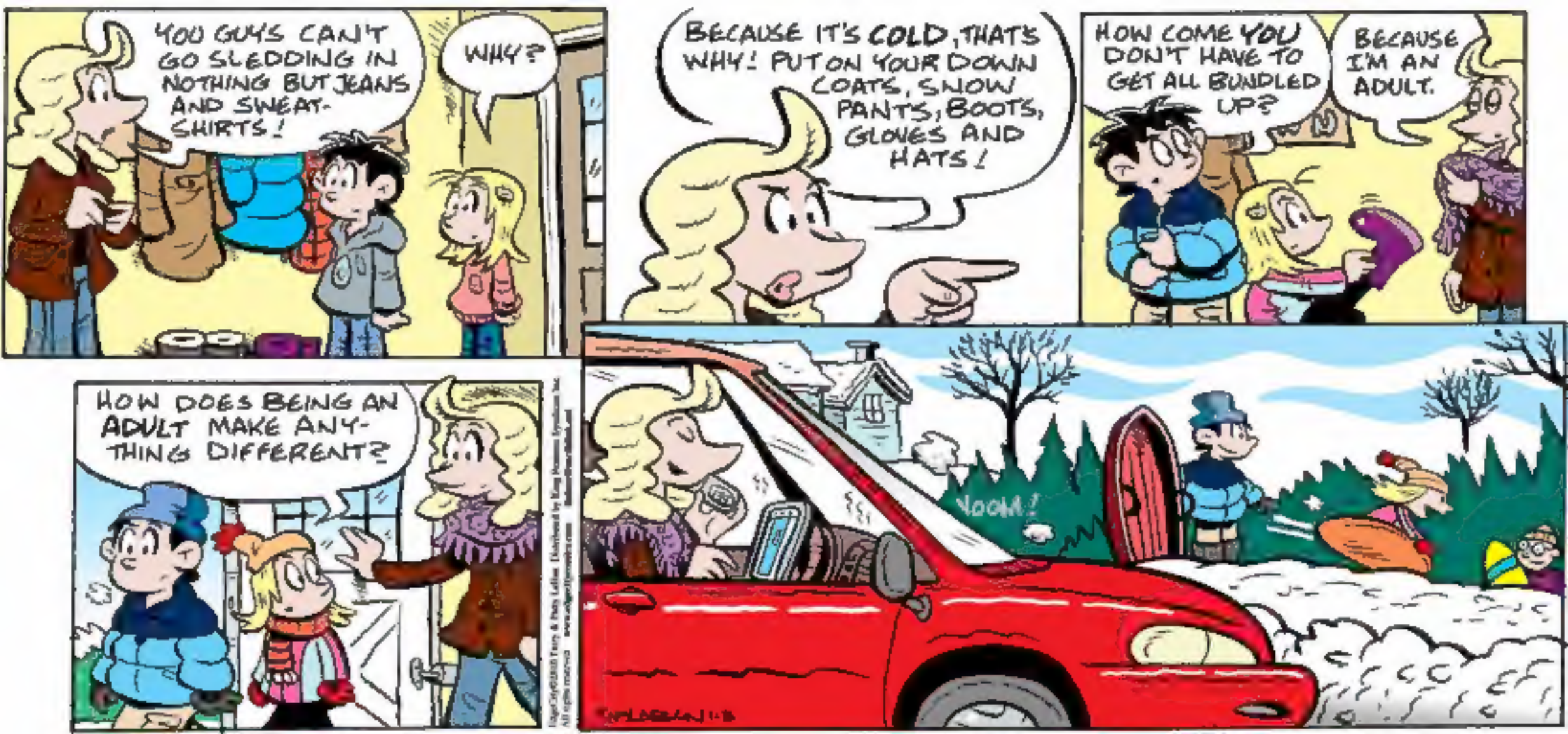
YOU GUYS CAN'T GO SLEDDING IN NOTHING BUT JEANS AND SWEAT-SHIRTS!
WHY?
BECAUSE IT'S COLD, THAT'S WHY! PUT ON YOUR DOWN COATS, SNOW PANTS, BOOTS, GLOVES AND HATS!
HOW COME YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET ALL BUNDLED UP?
BECAUSE I'M AN ADULT.
HOW DOES BEING AN ADULT MAKE ANY-THING DIFFERENT?
VROOM!

I'M GLAD YOU CAN COME WITH ME TO MY CONFERENCE. BUT WE NEED SOMEONE TO WATCH THE KIDS.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?
THEY'LL BE AWAY!
UH-OH. THIS IS A PROBLEM!
EVEN IF WE CAN FIND SOMEONE TO STAY HERE A WEEK, IT'LL BE EXPENSIVE! WHAT'LL WE DO?
WHY DON'T WE ASK YOUR MOM?
NO WAY!

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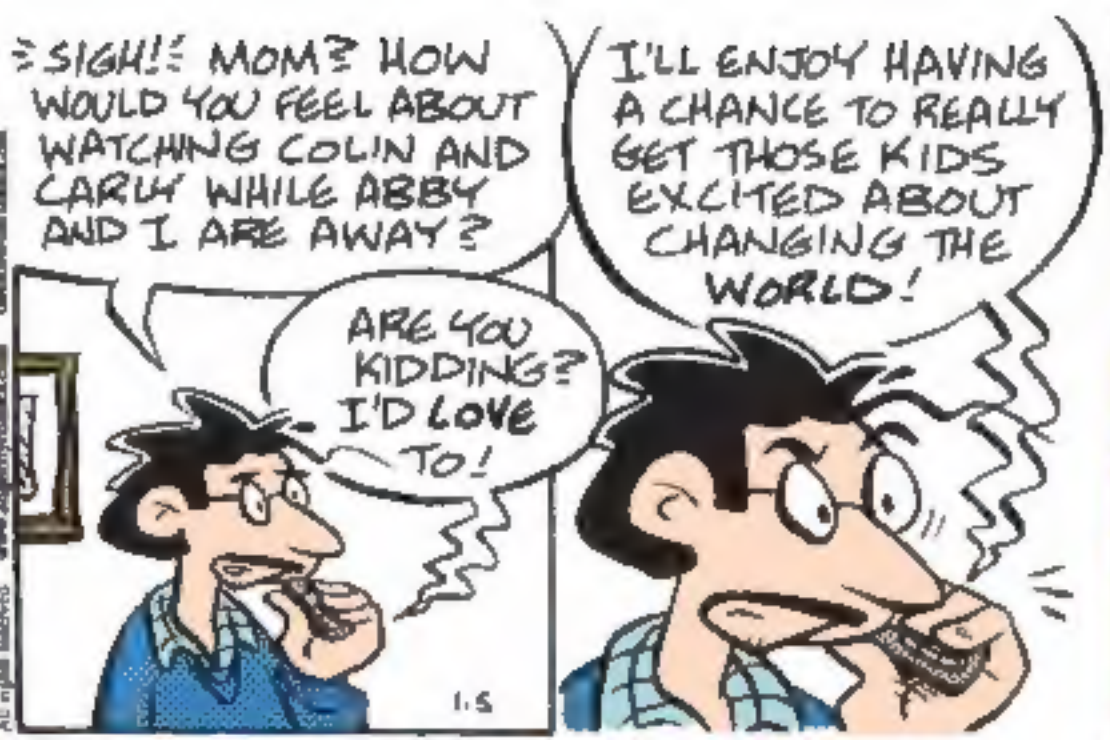

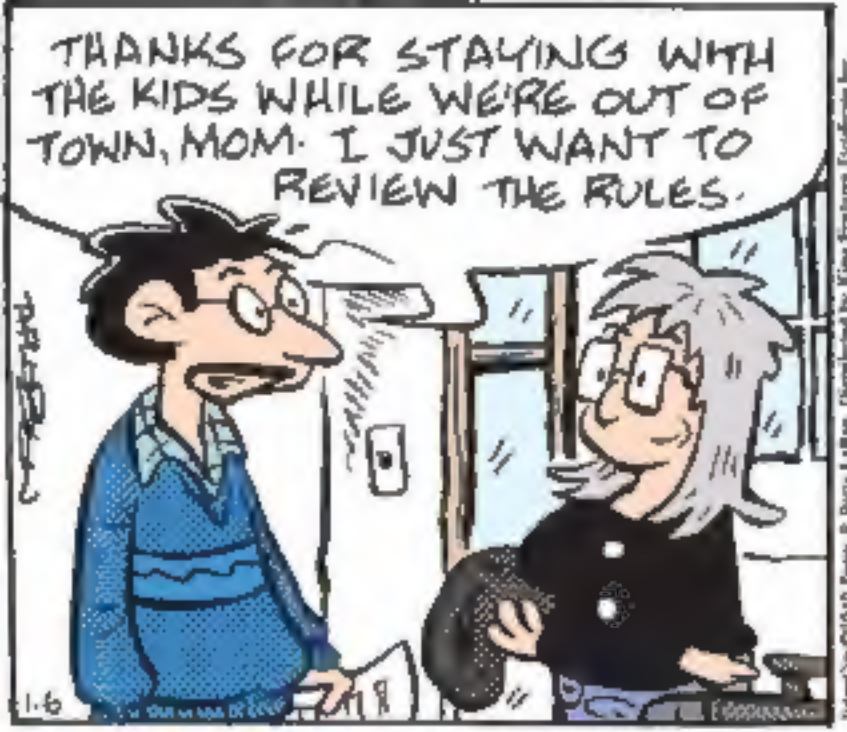

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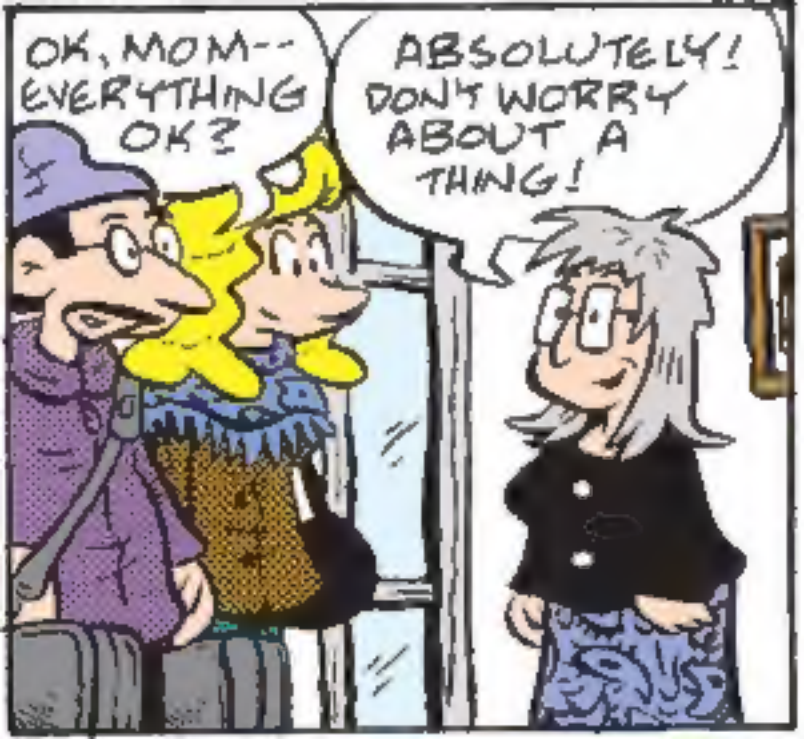

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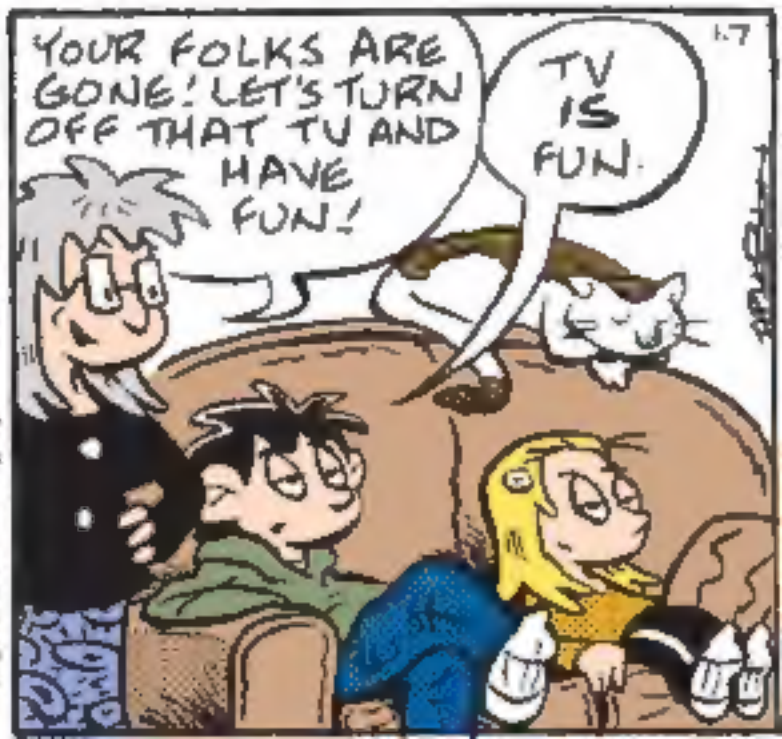

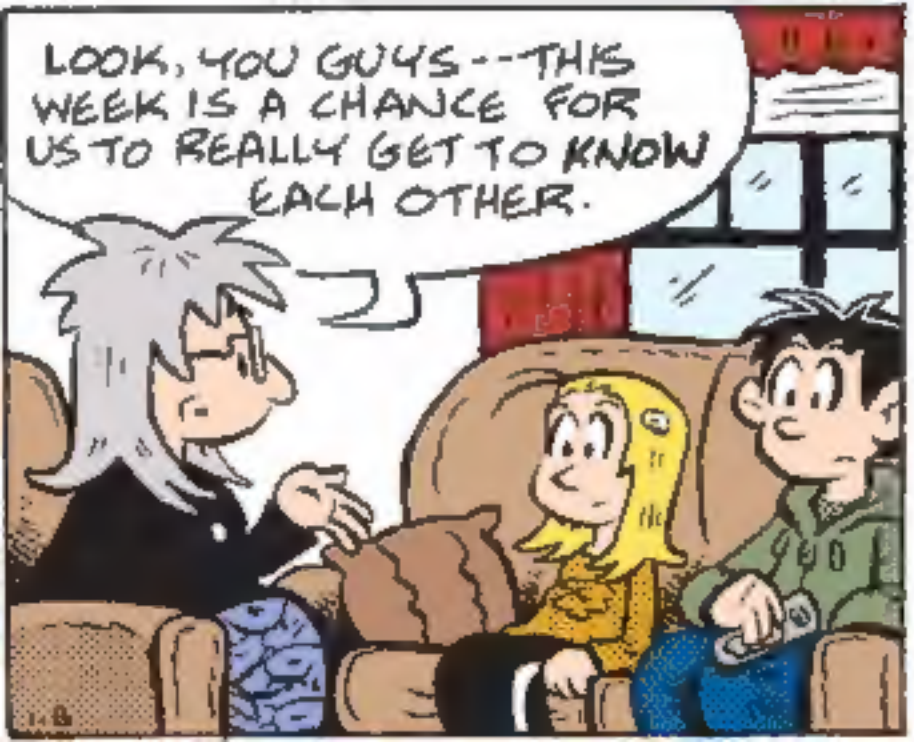

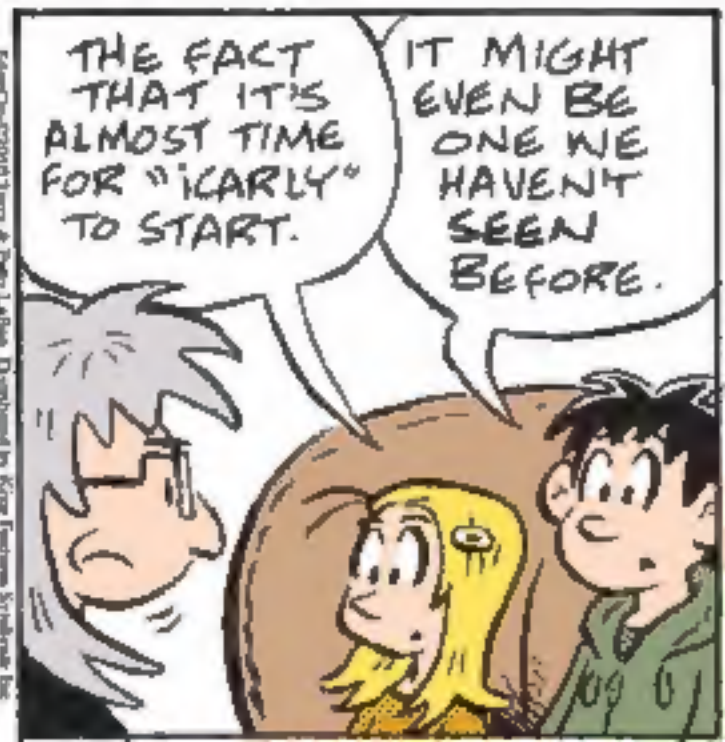

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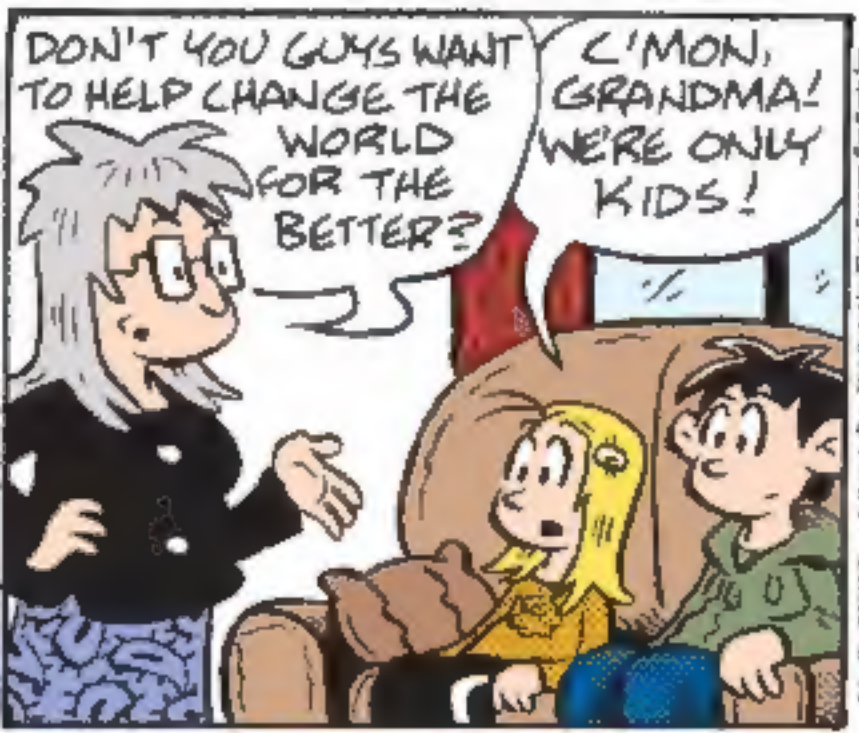

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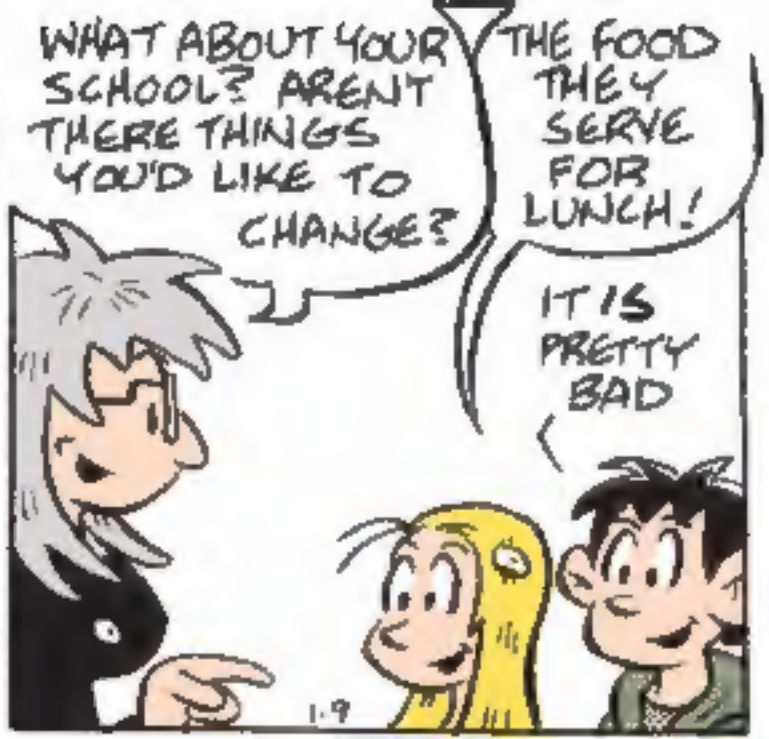
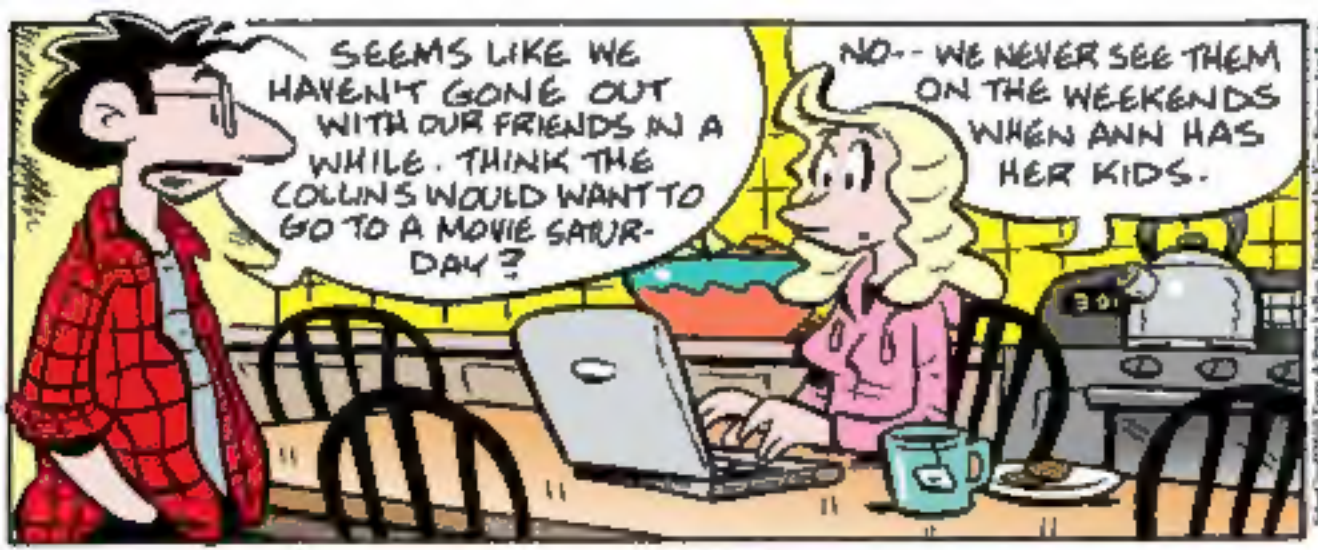
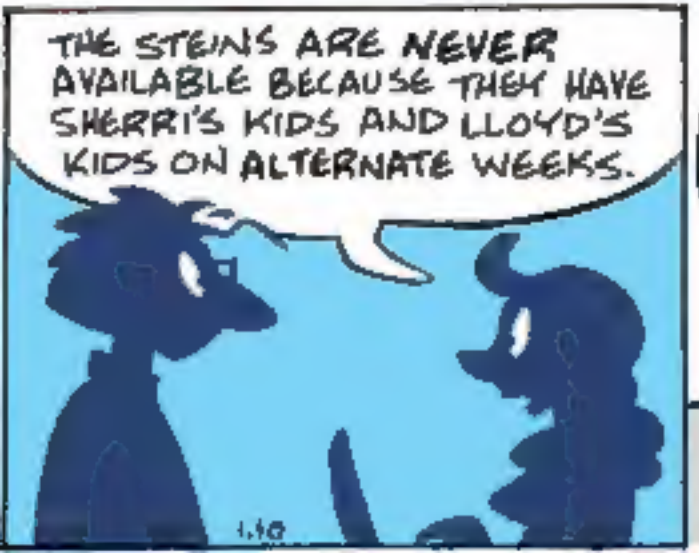
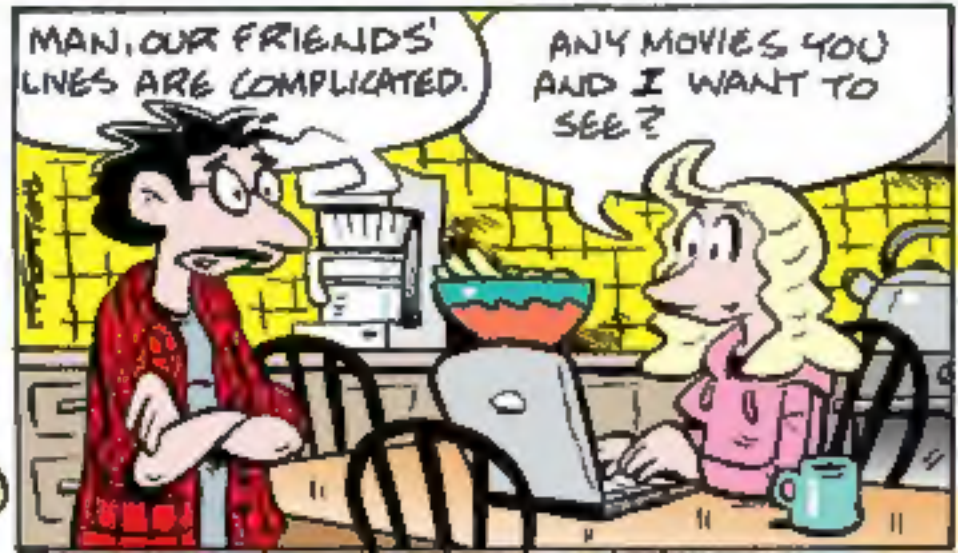


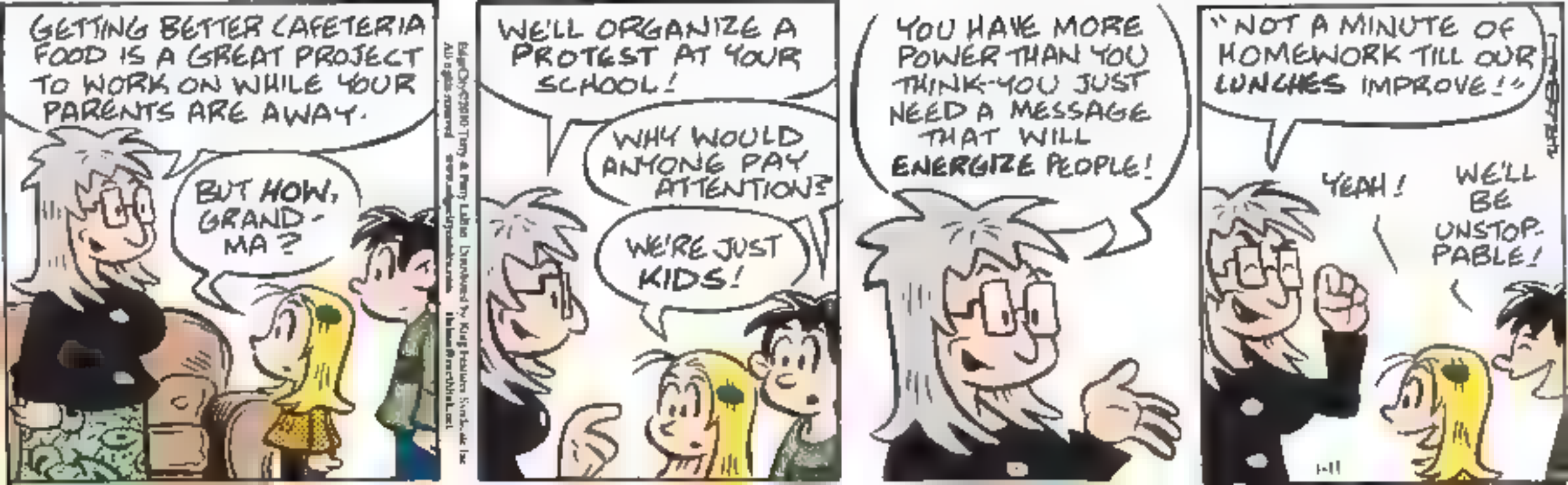

SEEMS LIKE WE HAVEN'T GONE OUT WITH OUR FRIENDS IN A WHILE. THINK THE COLLINS WOULD WANT TO GO TO A MOVIE SATURDAY?
NO-- WE NEVER SEE THEM ON THE WEEKENDS WHEN ANN HAS HER KIDS.

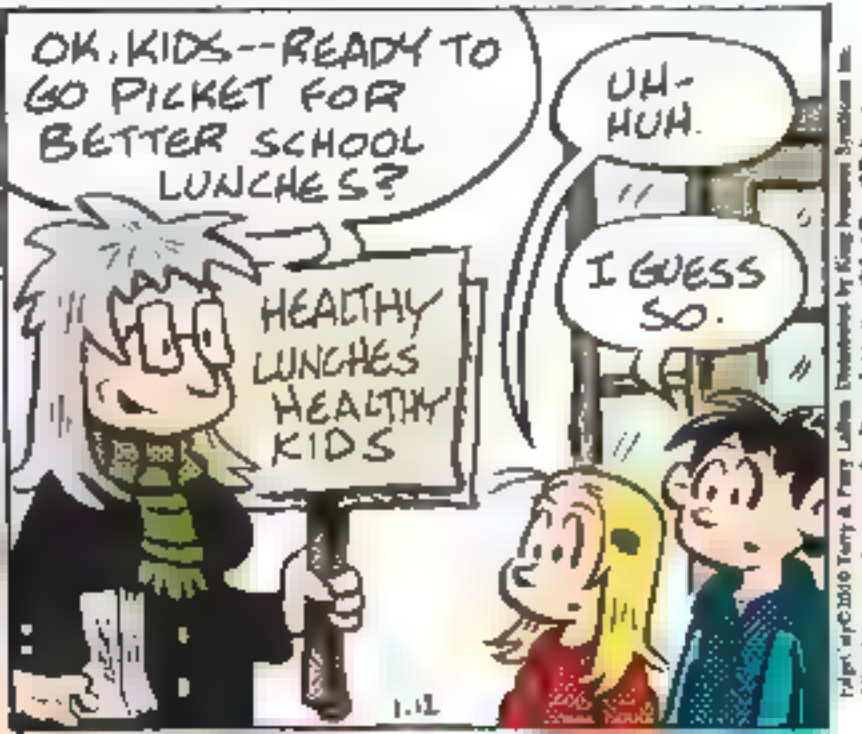
HOW ABOUT TOM?
HIS KIDS ARE WITH THEIR MOM THIS WEEKEND-AND WE ONLY SEE HIM WHEN HE DOES HAVE THEM.

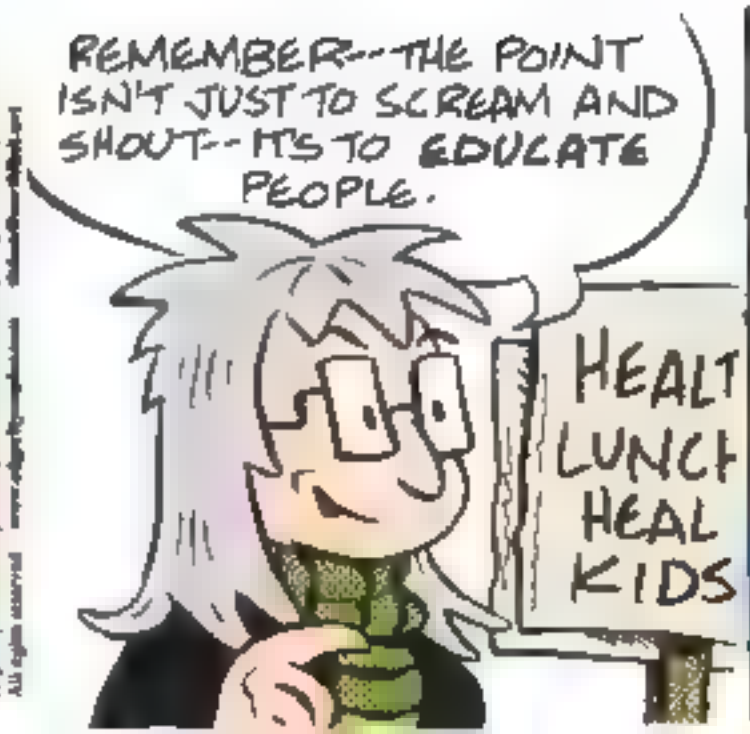

THE STEINS ARE NEVER AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY HAVE SHERRI'S KIDS AND LLOYD'S KIDS ON ALTERNATE WEEKS.

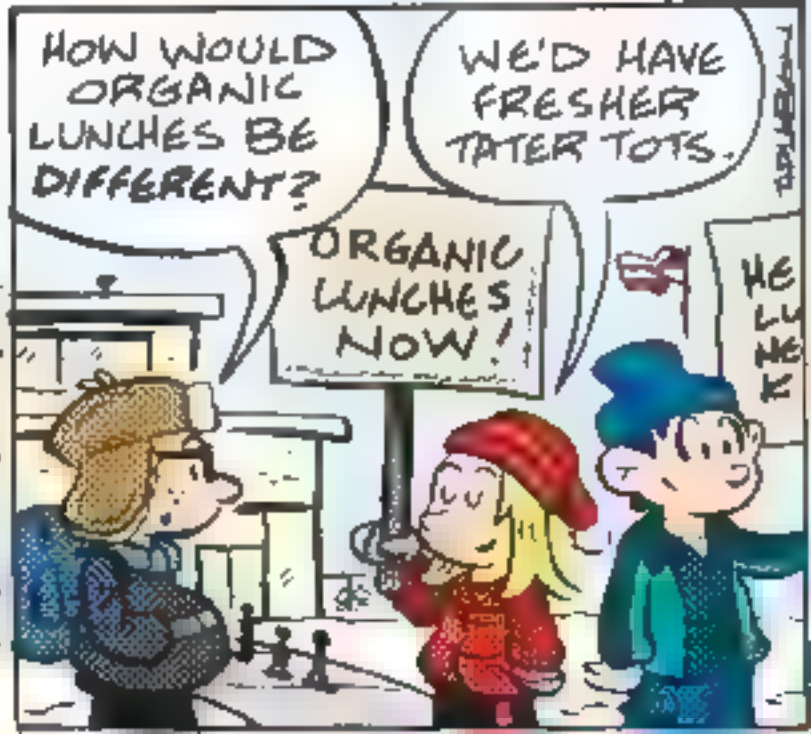
AND THE LURIES WILL BE BUSY WITH MARK'S KIDS, ELAINE'S FIRST STEPKIDS AND THE STEPKIDS SHE HAS NOW.


MAN, OUR FRIENDS' LIVES ARE COMPLICATED.
ANY MOVIES YOU AND I WANT TO SEE?

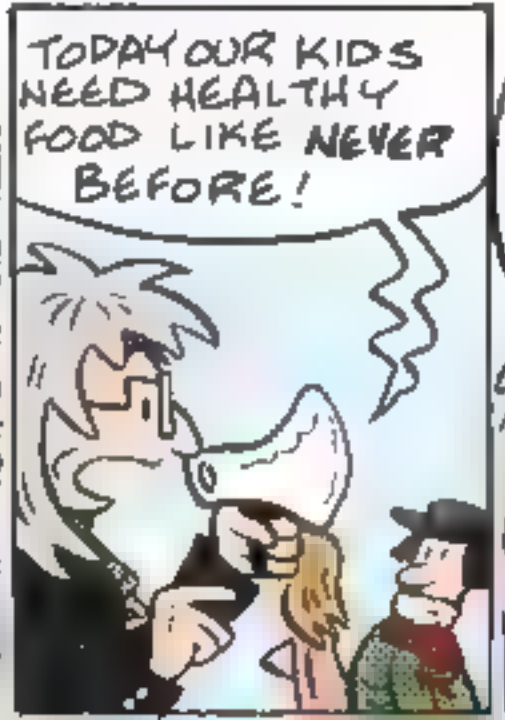

GETTING BETTER CAFETERIA FOOD IS A GREAT PROJECT TO WORK ON WHILE YOUR PARENTS ARE AWAY.
BUT HOW, GRAND-MA?
WE'LL ORGANIZE A PROTEST AT YOUR SCHOOL!
WHY WOULD ANYONE PAY ATTENTION?
WE'RE JUST KIDS!
YOU HAVE MORE POWER THAN YOU THINK-YOU JUST NEED A MESSAGE THAT WILL ENERGIZE PEOPLE!
"NOT A MINUTE OF HOMEWORK TILL OUR LUNCHES IMPROVE!"
YEAH!
WE'LL BE UNSTOP-PABLE!

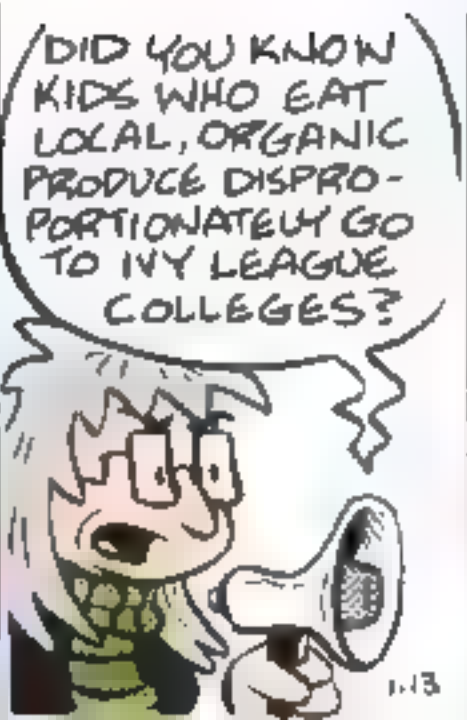

OK, KIDS--READY TO GO PICKET FOR BETTER SCHOOL LUNCHES?
HEALTHY LUNCHES HEALTHY KIDS
UH-HUH.
I GUESS SO.

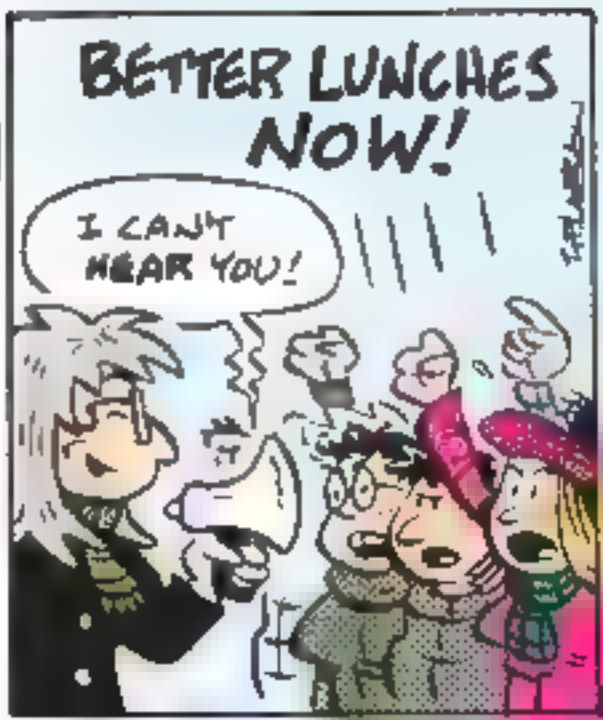

REMEMBER--THE POINT ISN'T JUST TO SCREAM AND SHOUT--IT'S TO EDUCATE PEOPLE.
HEALT LUNCH HEAL KIDS

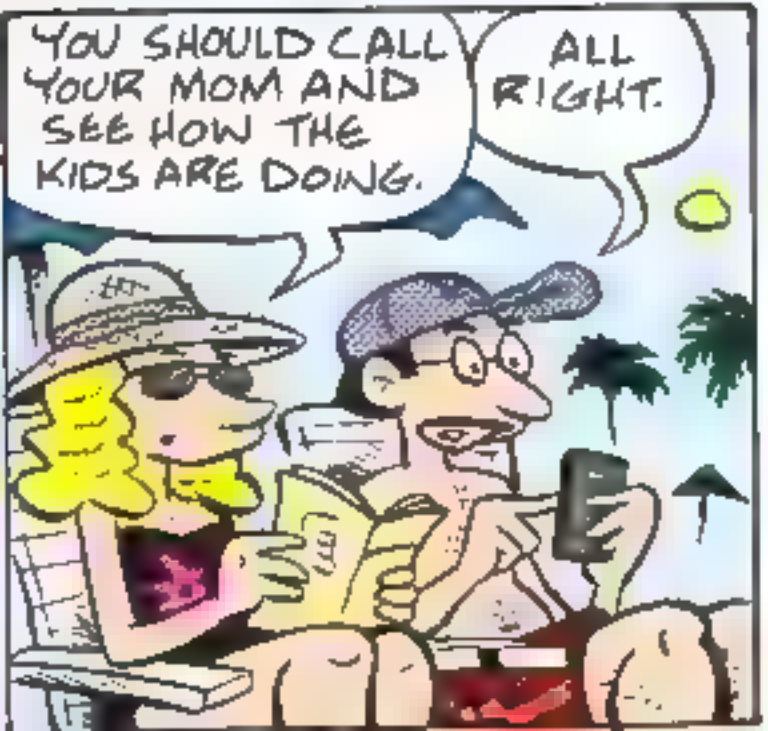

HOW WOULD ORGANIC LUNCHES BE DIFFERENT?
WE'D HAVE FRESHER TATER TOTS.
ORGANIC LUNCHES NOW!

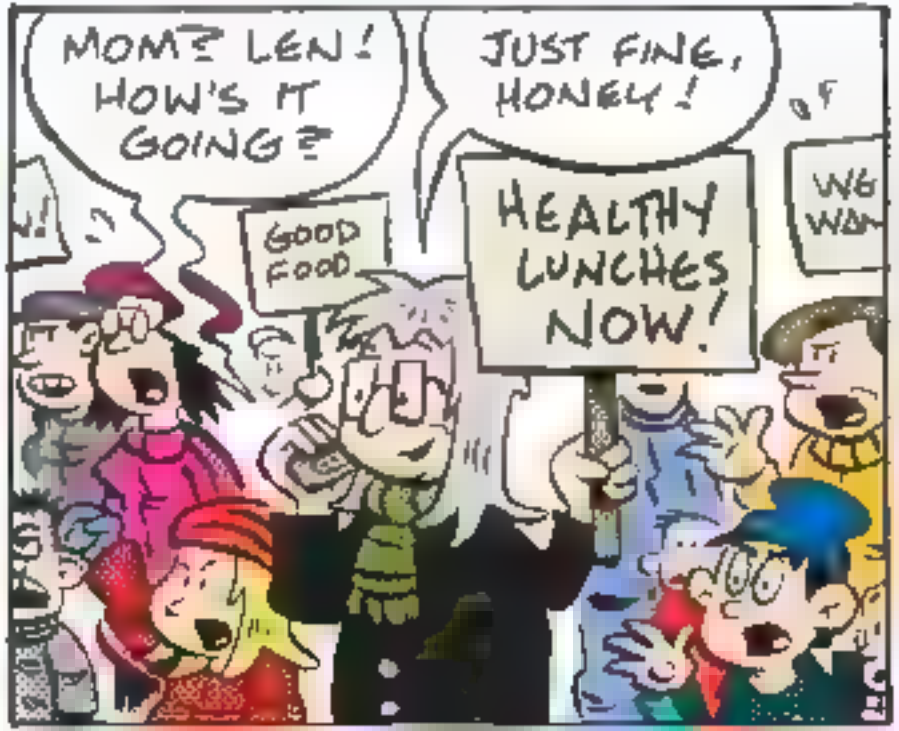
PARENTS! AREN'T YOU TIRED OF YOUR KIDS BEING SERVED CRUMMY PROCESSED FOOD FOR LUNCH?
HEALTHY LUNCH NOW!

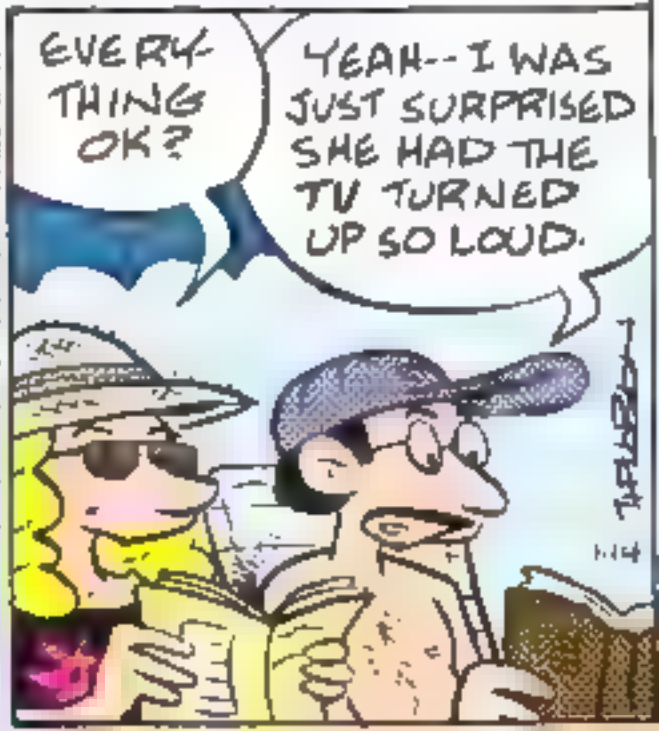

TODAY OUR KIDS NEED HEALTHY FOOD LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

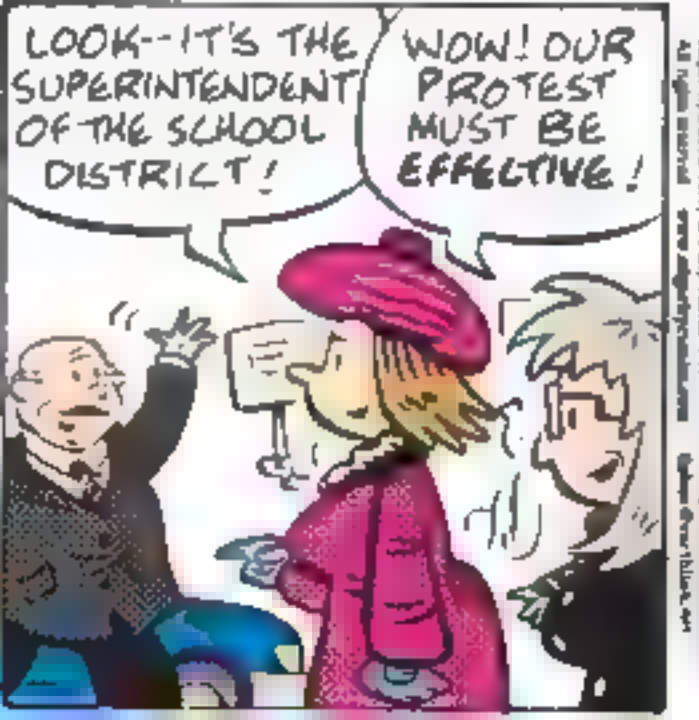

DID YOU KNOW KIDS WHO EAT LOCAL, ORGANIC PRODUCE DISPROPORTIONATELY GO TO IVY LEAGUE COLLEGES?

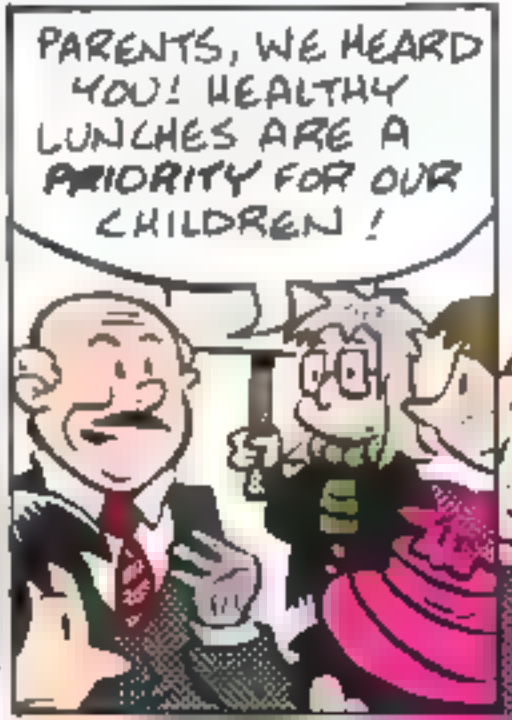

BETTER LUNCHES NOW!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

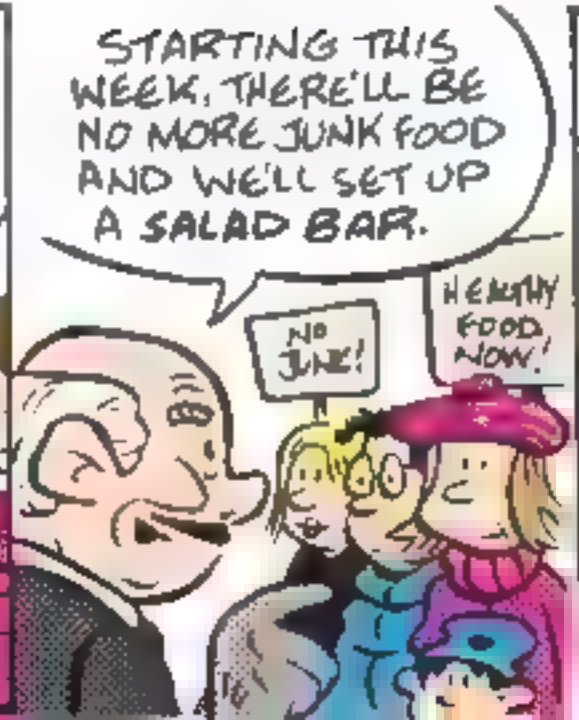

YOU SHOULD CALL YOUR MOM AND SEE HOW THE KIDS ARE DOING.
ALL RIGHT.

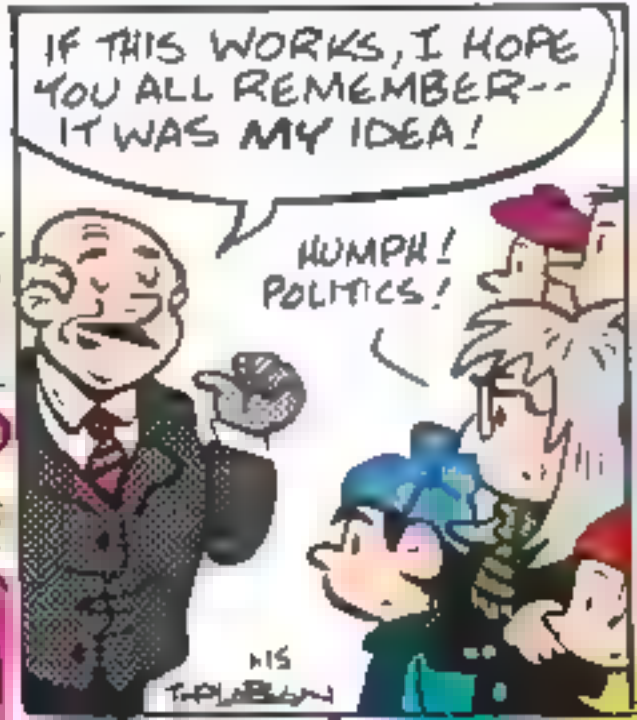

MOM? LEN! HOW'S IT GOING?
JUST FINE, HONEY!
GOOD FOOD
HEALTHY LUNCHES NOW!


EVERY-THING OK?
YEAH-- I WAS JUST SURPRISED SHE HAD THE TV TURNED UP SO LOUD.


LOOK--IT'S THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT!
WOW! OUR PROTEST MUST BE EFFECTIVE!


PARENTS, WE HEARD YOU! HEALTHY LUNCHES ARE A PRIORITY FOR OUR CHILDREN!


STARTING THIS WEEK, THERE'LL BE NO MORE JUNK FOOD AND WE'LL SET UP A SALAD BAR.
NO JUNK!
HEALTHY FOOD NOW!


IF THIS WORKS, I HOPE YOU ALL REMEMBER-- IT WAS MY IDEA!
HUMPH! POLITICS!

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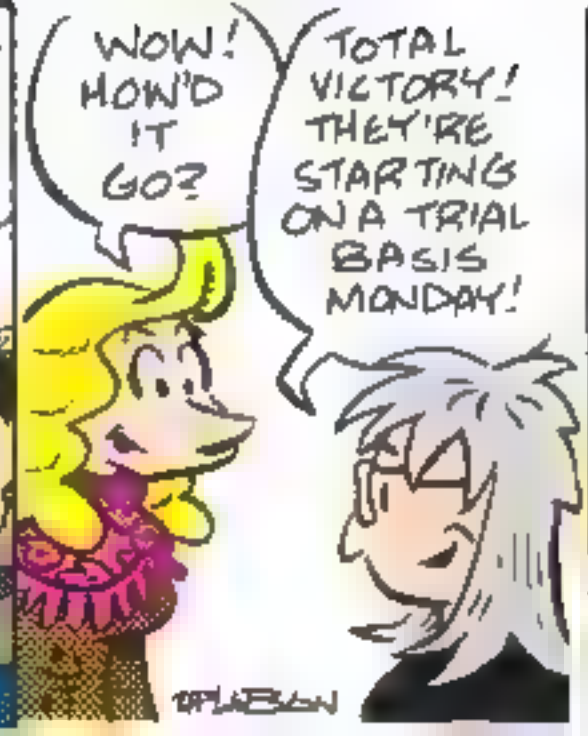
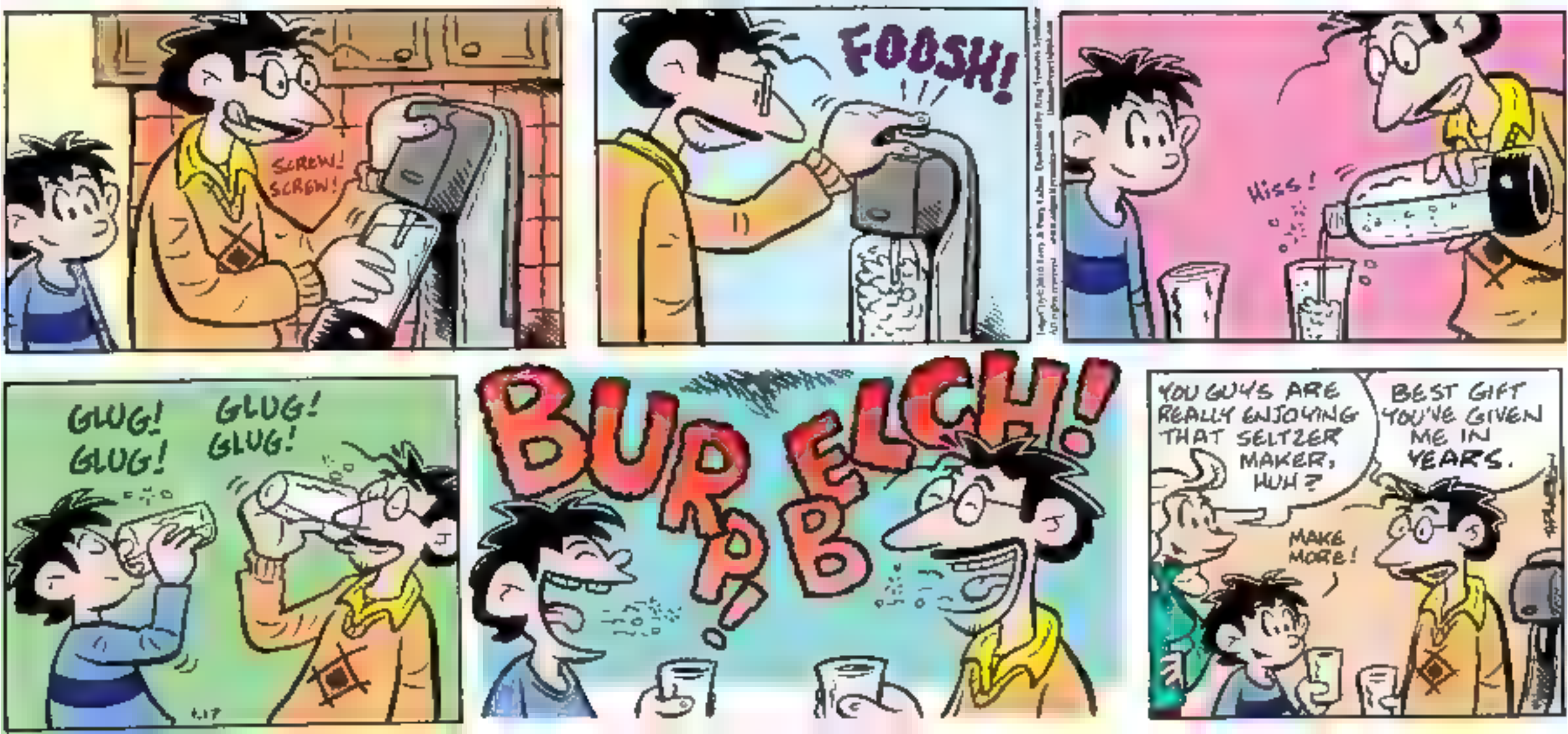
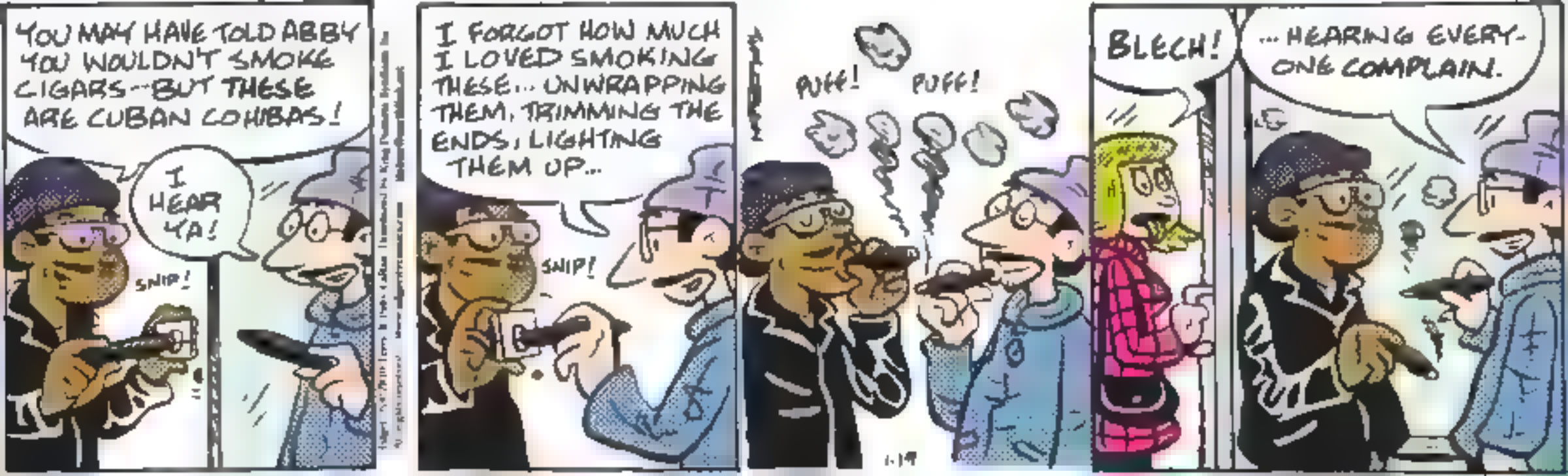
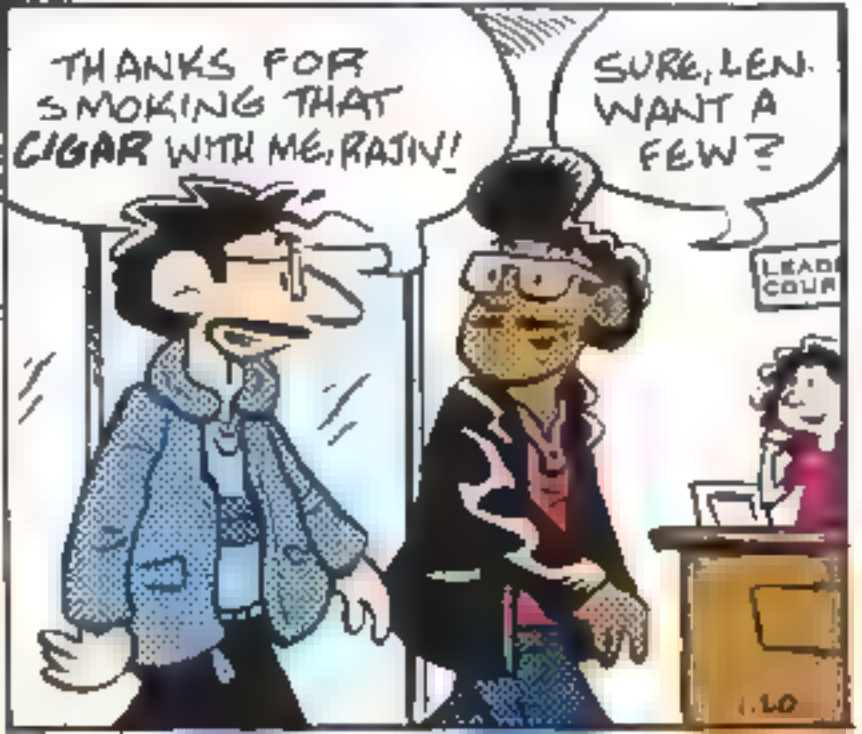
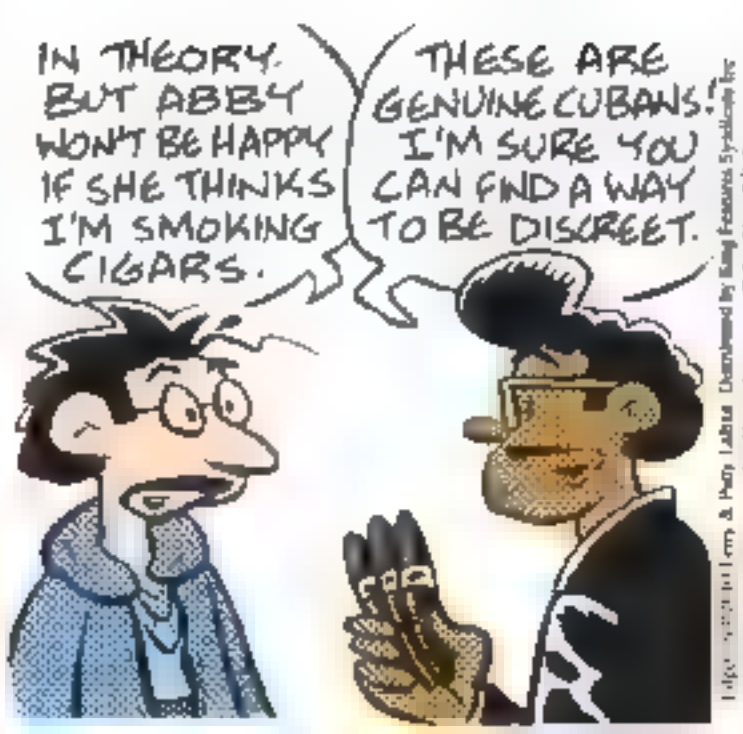


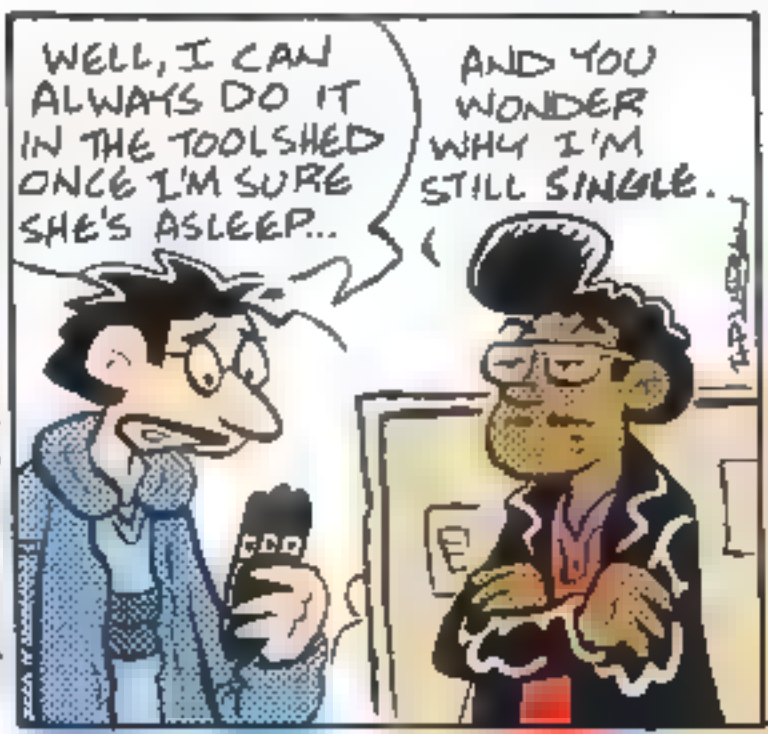

SCREW! SCREW!
FOOSH!
HISS!
GLUG! GLUG!
GLUG! GLUG!
BURP! ELCH!
YOU GUYS ARE REALLY ENJOYING THAT SELTZER MAKER, HUH?
BEST GIFT YOU'VE GIVEN ME IN YEARS.
MAKE MORE!

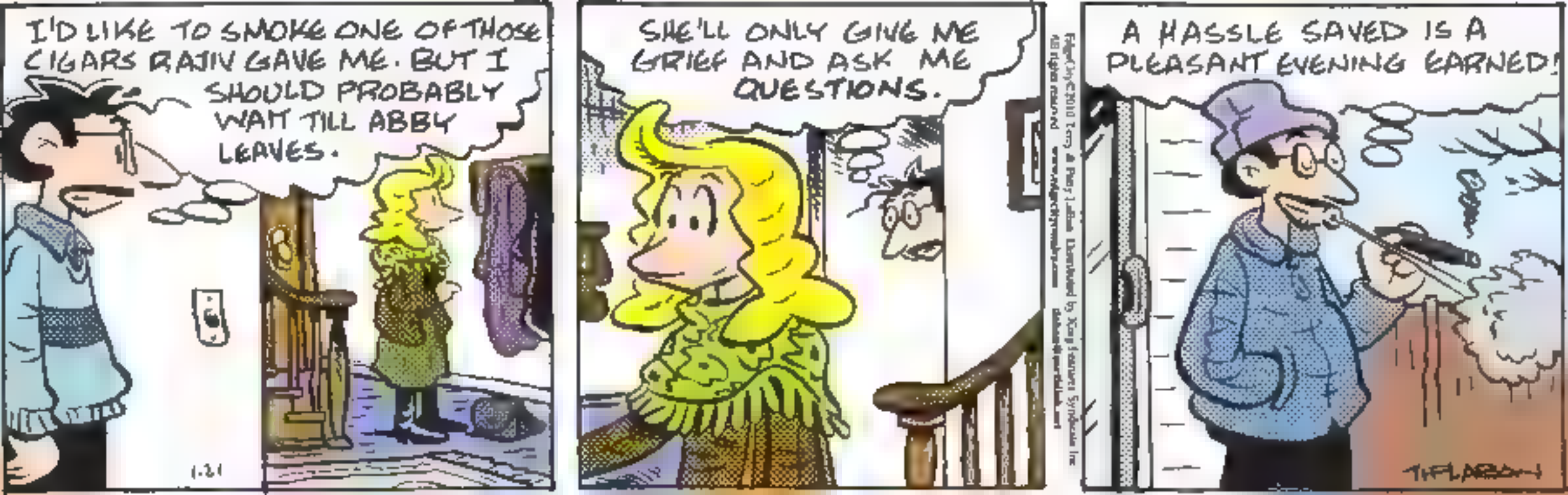
HEY, LEN—YOU EVER SMOKE CIGARS?
I USED TO.
ABBY DIDN'T LIKE IT, THOUGH, SO I STOPPED.
WELL, A FRIEND GAVE ME SOME GENUINE CUBAN COHIBAS!
I WAS HOPING YOU'D SMOKE ONE WITH ME!
OH, MAN! I DON'T KNOW...
BECAUSE OF ABBY?
BECAUSE I'M NOT WORTHY.
SNIFF!...


YOU MAY HAVE TOLD ABBY YOU WOULDN'T SMOKE CIGARS--BUT THESE ARE CUBAN COHIBAS!
I HEAR YA!
SNIP!
I FORGOT HOW MUCH I LOVED SMOKING THESE... UNWRAPPING THEM, TRIMMING THE ENDS, LIGHTING THEM UP...
SNIP!
PUFF!
PUFF!
BLECH!
... HEARING EVERYONE COMPLAIN.

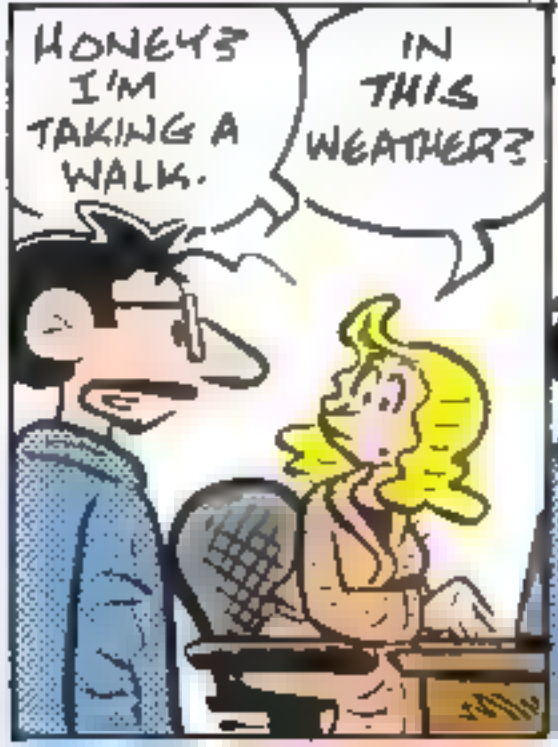

THANKS FOR SMOKING THAT CIGAR WITH ME, RAJIV!
SURE, LEN. WANT A FEW?


IN THEORY. BUT ABBY WON'T BE HAPPY IF SHE THINKS I'M SMOKING CIGARS.
THESE ARE GENUINE CUBANS! I'M SURE YOU CAN FIND A WAY TO BE DISCREET.


WELL, I CAN ALWAYS DO IT IN THE TOOLSHED ONCE I'M SURE SHE'S ASLEEP...
AND YOU WONDER WHY I'M STILL SINGLE.

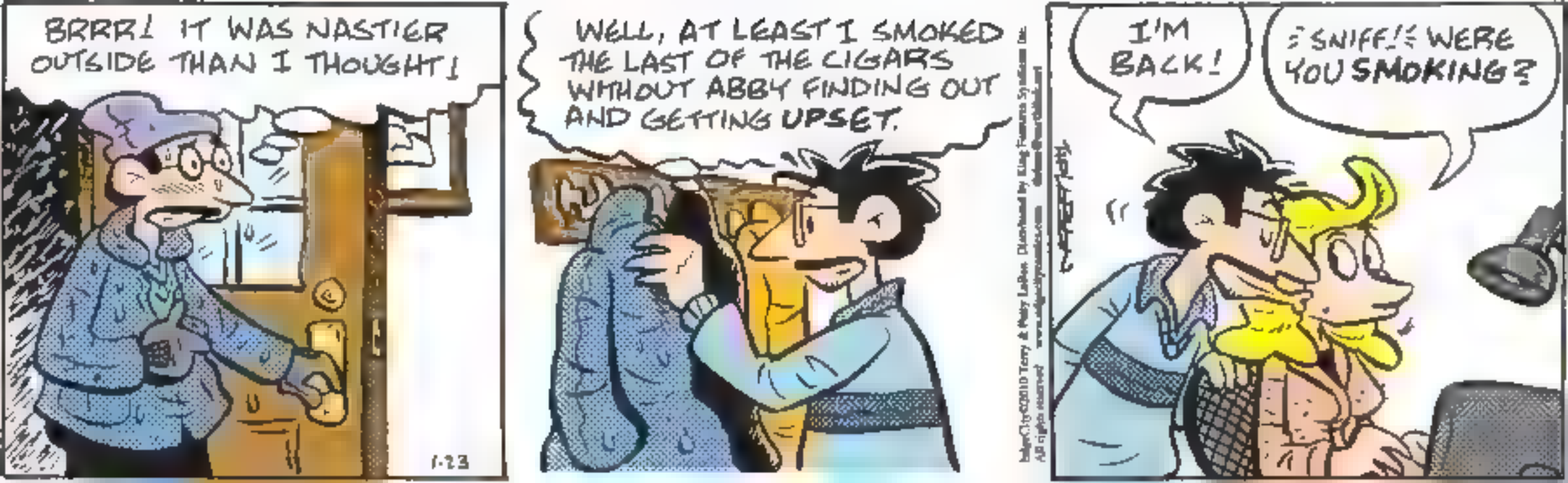

I'D LIKE TO SMOKE ONE OF THOSE CIGARS RAJIV GAVE ME. BUT I SHOULD PROBABLY WAIT TILL ABBY LEAVES.
SHE'LL ONLY GIVE ME GRIEF AND ASK ME QUESTIONS.
A HASSLE SAVED IS A PLEASANT EVENING EARNED!

I WOULDN'T MIND SMOKING THE LAST OF THE CIGARS RAJIV GAVE ME. BUT IF ABBY KNOWS, SHE'LL GIVE ME GRIEF.

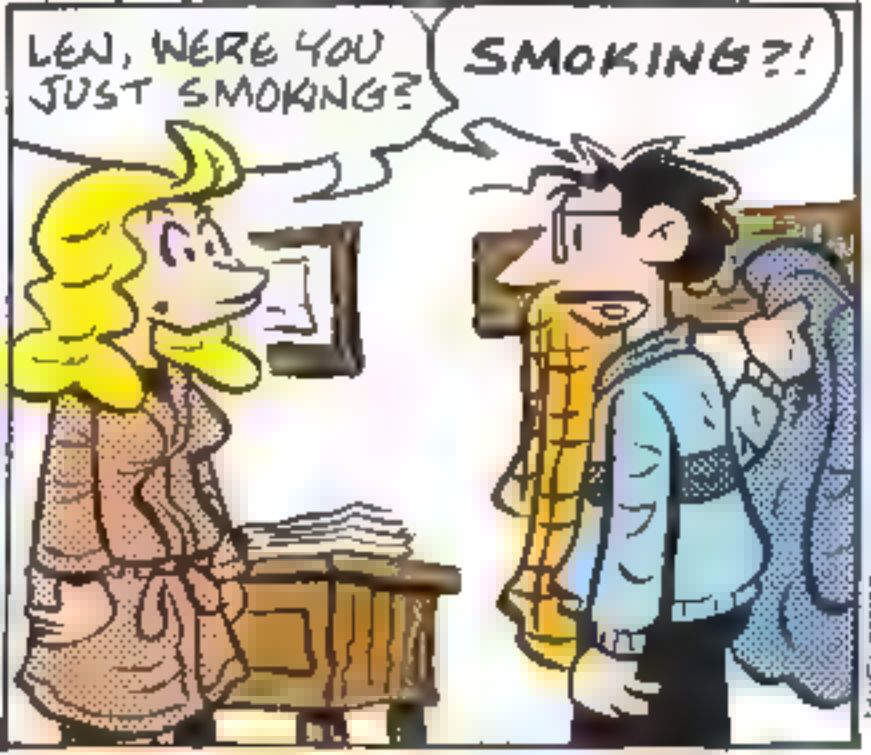

HONEY? I'M TAKING A WALK.
IN THIS WEATHER?

I JUST NEED A LITTLE FRESH AIR!
WHATEVER. DO WHAT YOU WANT.

IS THIS STUPID?


BRRR! IT WAS NASTIER OUTSIDE THAN I THOUGHT!
1-23
WELL, AT LEAST I SMOKED THE LAST OF THE CIGARS WITHOUT ABBY FINDING OUT AND GETTING UPSET.
I'M BACK!
SNIFF! WERE YOU SMOKING?

I'VE GOT SOME CLOTHES TO PICK UP.
OH, BOY!
MARIO! I TOLD YOU HE'D BE BACK!
ONE MINUTE, SIR.
RUSTLE RUSTLE!
THAT'LL BE $12.75.
MAN, I'VE GOT TO STOP LEAVING MY CLOTHES AT THE CLEANERS FOR SO LONG!



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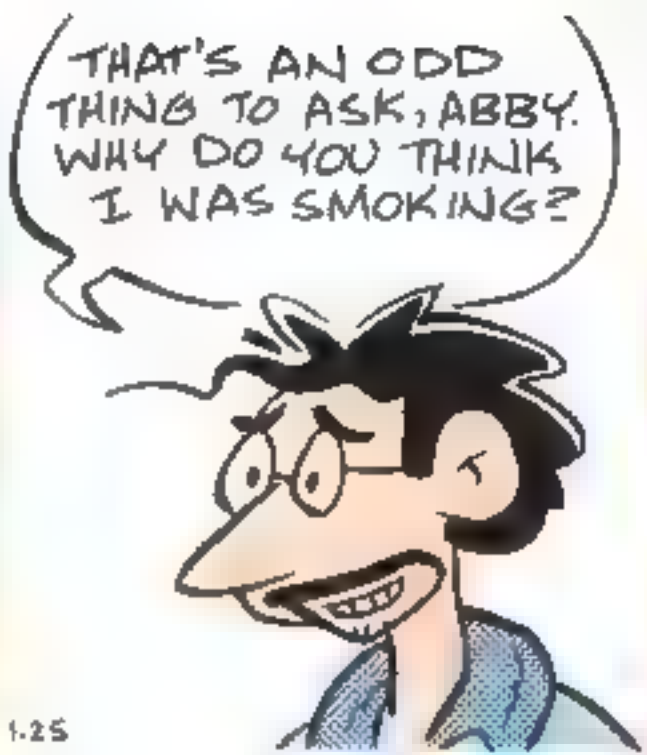

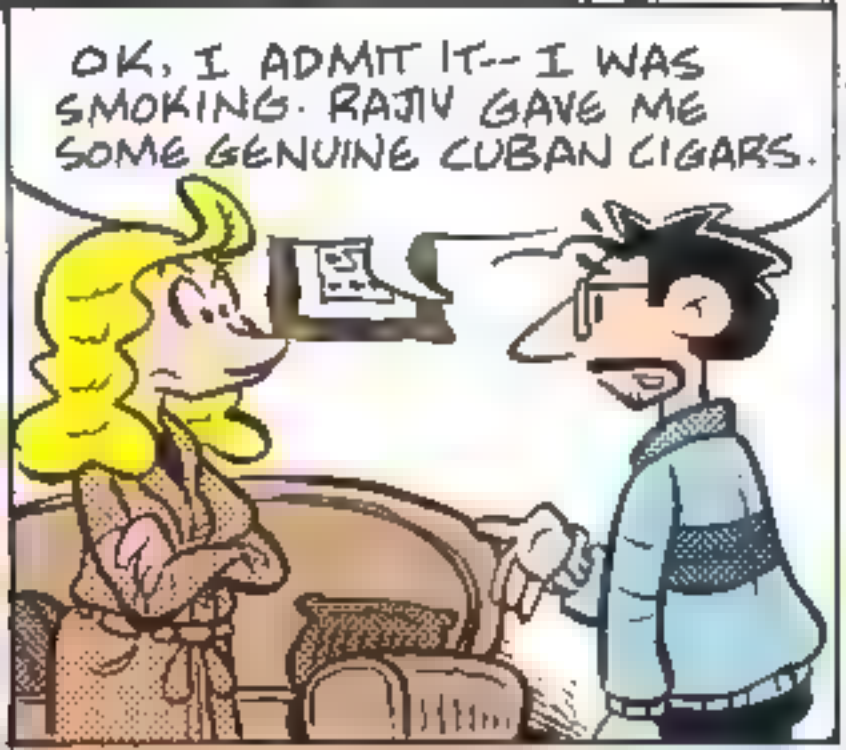

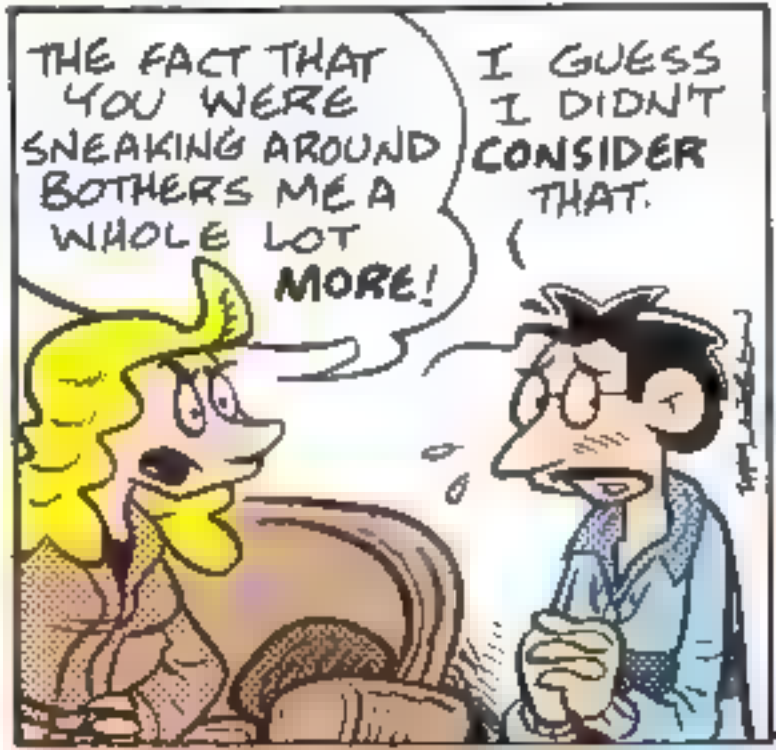

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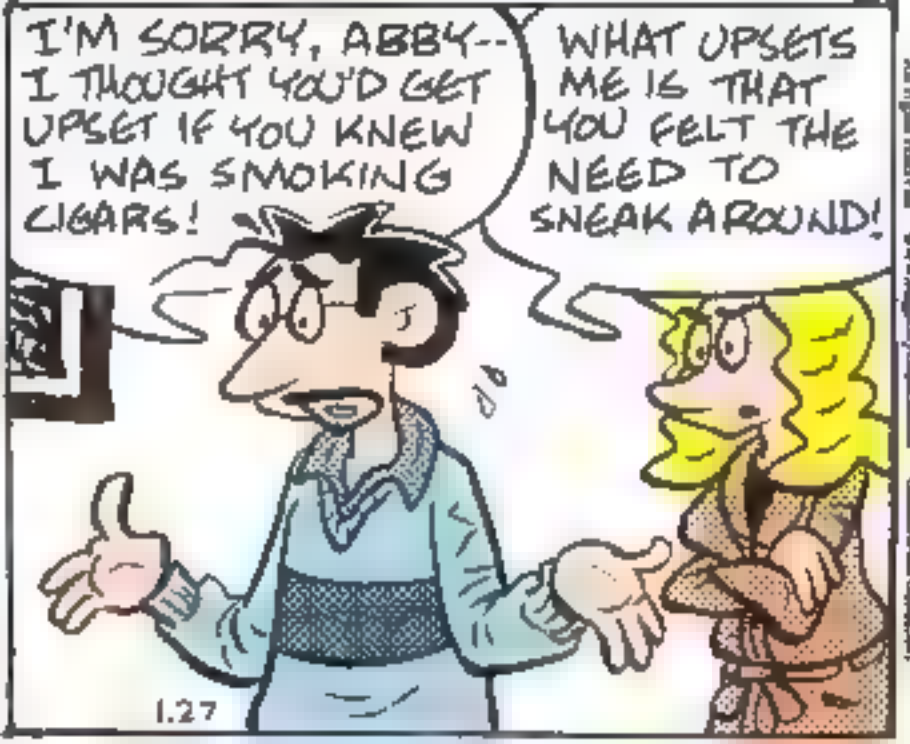
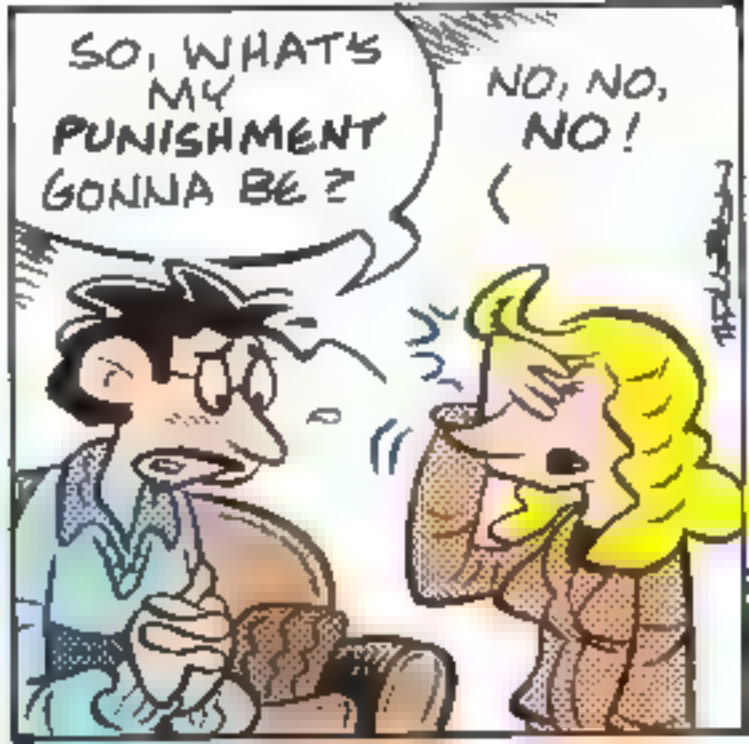
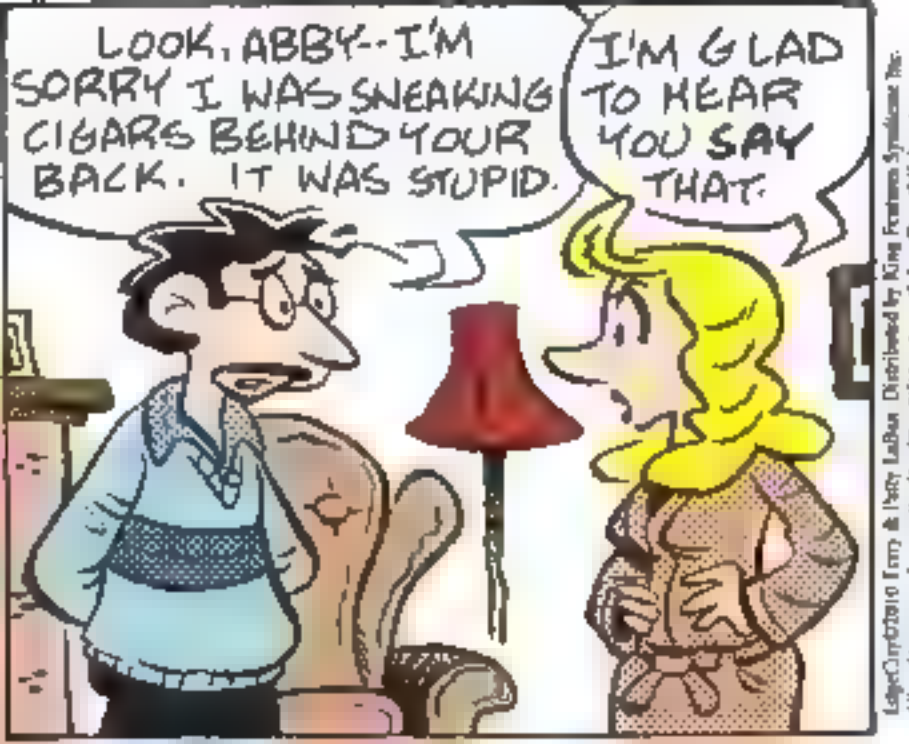

I'M SORRY, ABBY-- I THOUGHT YOU'D GET UPSET IF YOU KNEW I WAS SMOKING CIGARS!
WHAT UPSETS ME IS THAT YOU FELT THE NEED TO SNEAK AROUND!
1.27

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE AN AUTHORITY FIGURE. I'M YOUR WIFE, NOT YOUR MOM!


SO, WHAT'S MY PUNISHMENT GONNA BE?
NO, NO, NO!



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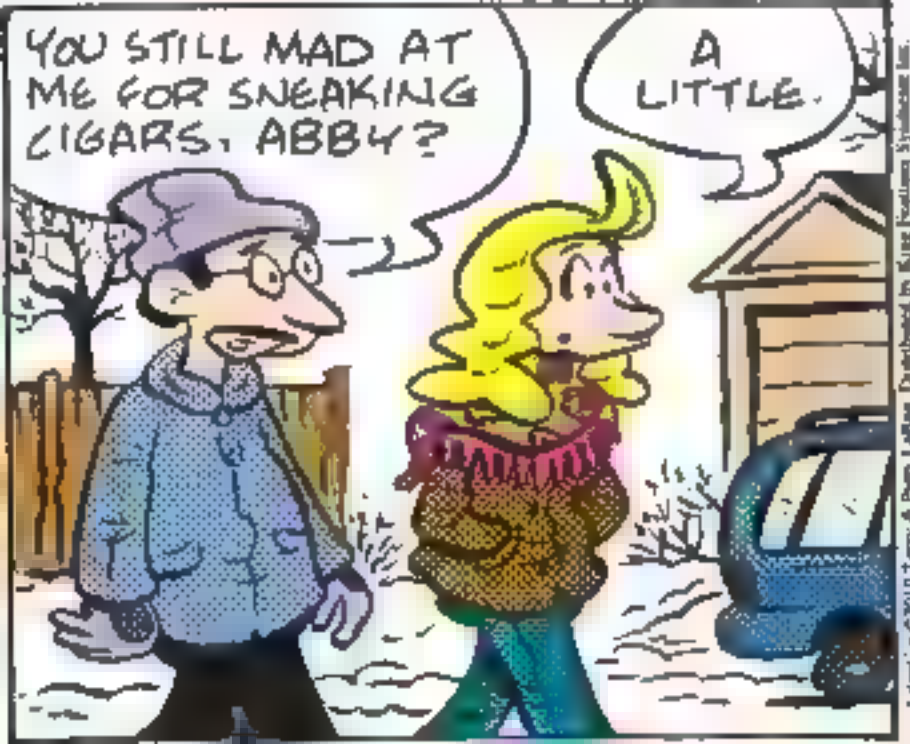
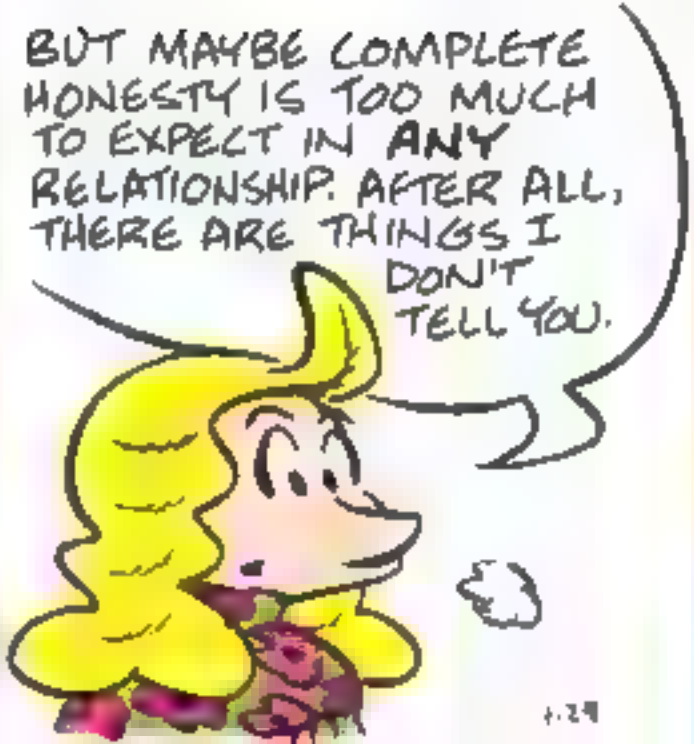
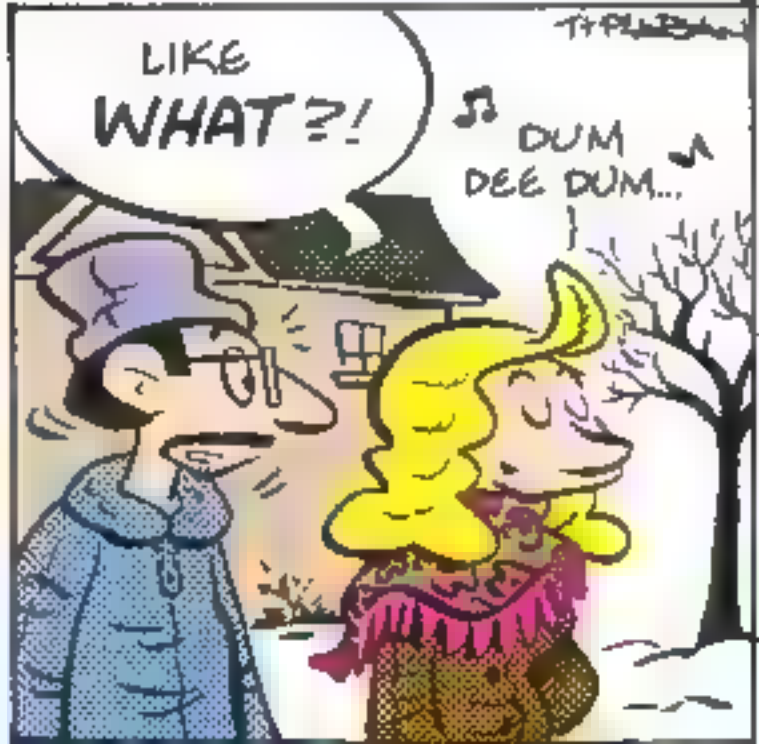
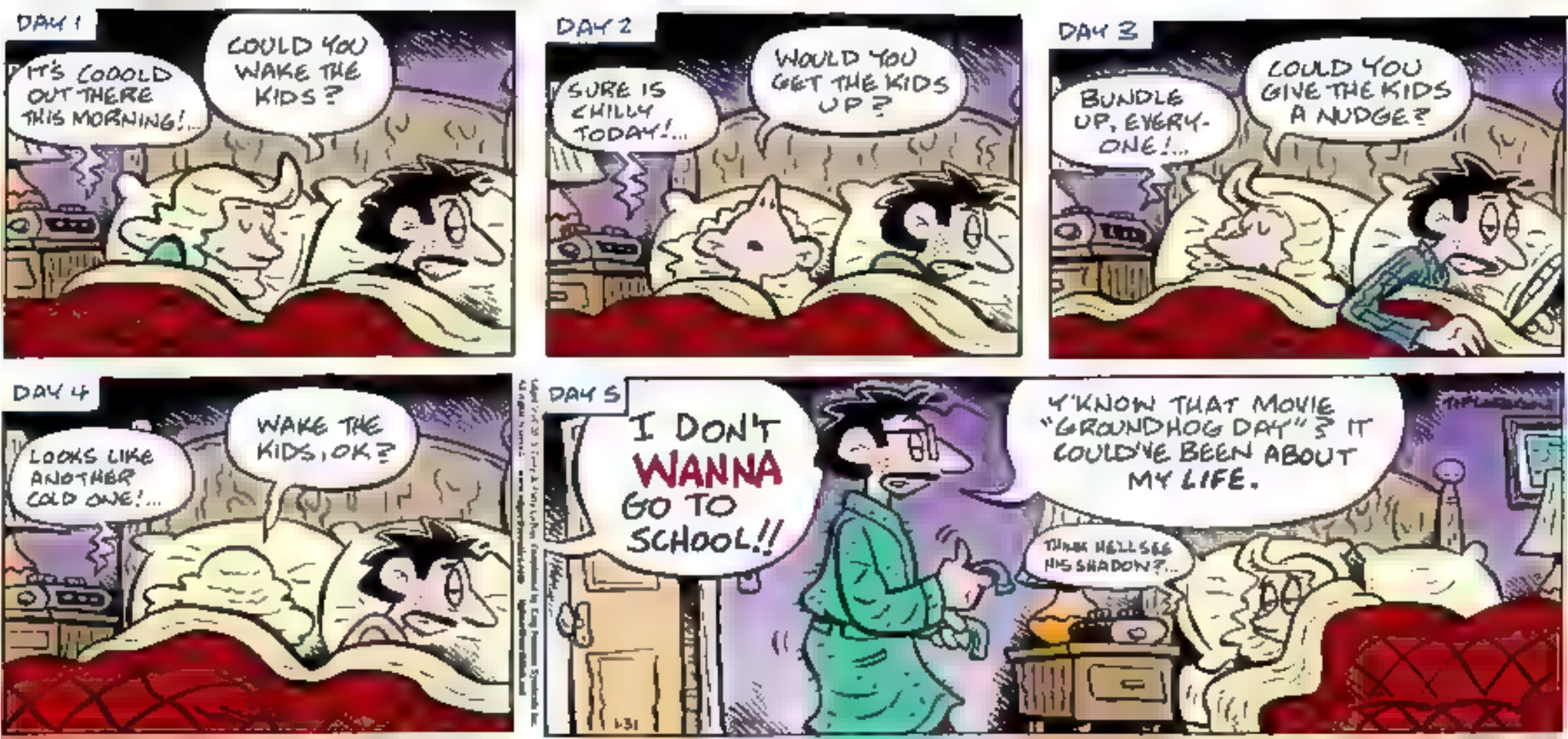
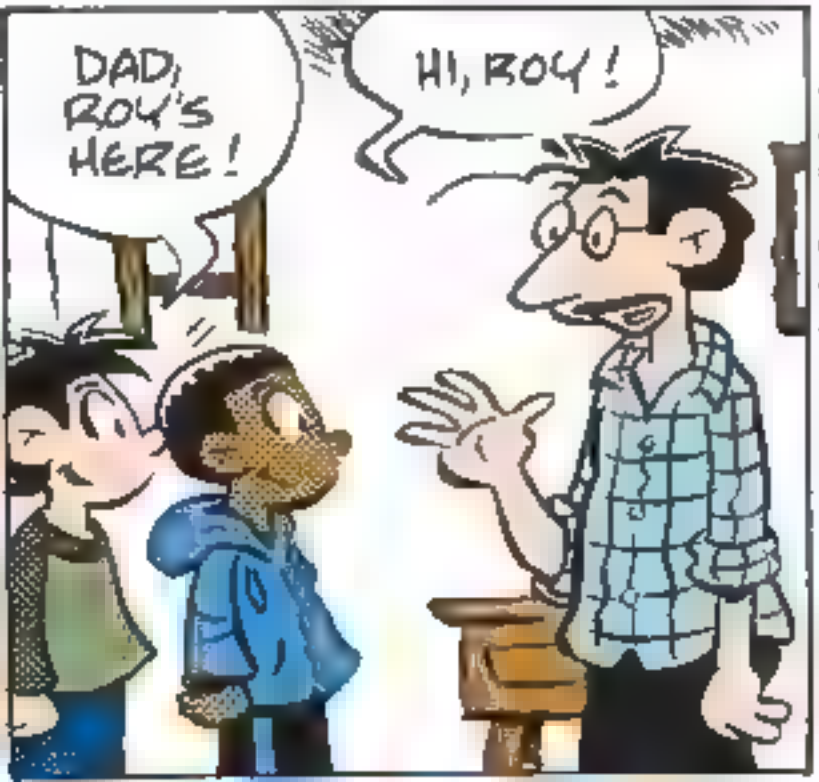

YOU STILL MAD AT ME FOR SNEAKING CIGARS, ABBY?
A LITTLE.


BUT MAYBE COMPLETE HONESTY IS TOO MUCH TO EXPECT IN ANY RELATIONSHIP. AFTER ALL, THERE ARE THINGS I DON'T TELL YOU.


LIKE WHAT?!
DUM DEE DUM...

ENJOY THOSE CIGARS I GAVE YOU, LEN?
YEAH. BUT ABBY FOUND OUT AND GOT MAD.
BUM-MER!
IT WASN'T THE CIGARS. IT WAS THAT I WAS SNEAKING THEM. I SHOULD'VE JUST TOLD HER.
1-30
WELL, SINCE SHE DOESN'T MIND, HAVE ONE MORE.
COOL! THANKS!
I'M GOING OUT TO SMOKE ONE MORE CIGAR.
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T. THEY'RE NOT GOOD FOR YOU!


DAY 1
IT'S COOOLD OUT THERE THIS MORNING!...
COULD YOU WAKE THE KIDS?
DAY 2
SURE IS CHILLY TODAY!...
WOULD YOU GET THE KIDS UP?
DAY 3
BUNDLE UP, EVERY-ONE!...
COULD YOU GIVE THE KIDS A NUDGE?
DAY 4
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER COLD ONE!...
WAKE THE KIDS, OK?
DAY 5
I DON'T WANNA GO TO SCHOOL!!
Y'KNOW THAT MOVIE "GROUNDHOG DAY"? IT COULD'VE BEEN ABOUT MY LIFE.
THINK HE'LL SEE HIS SHADOW?...



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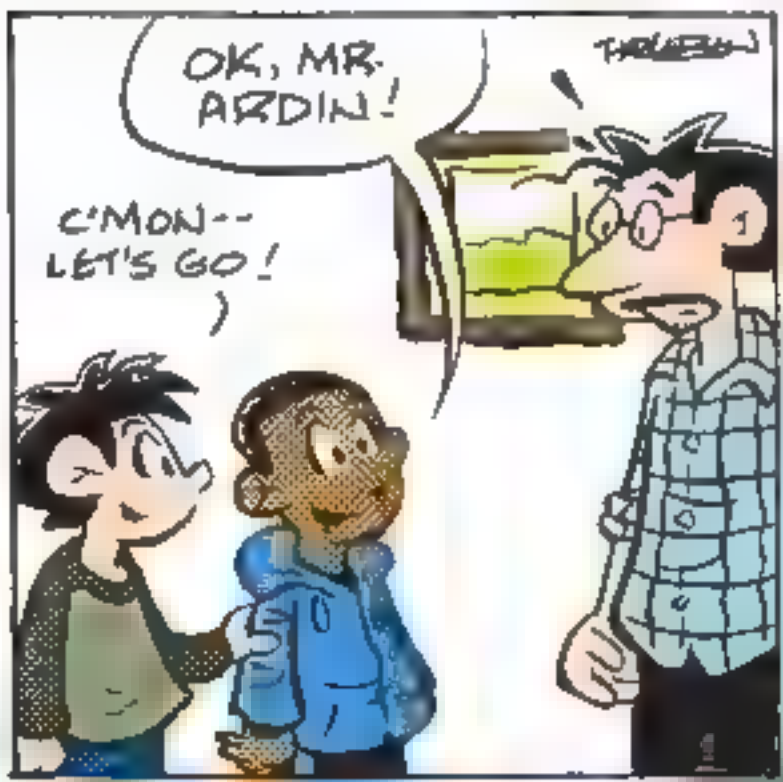

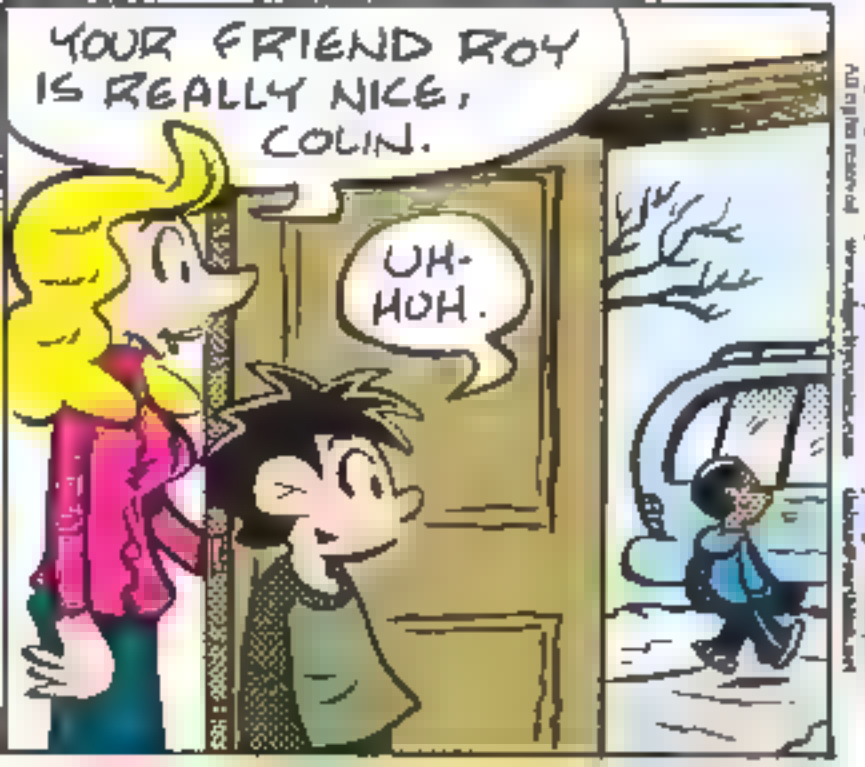

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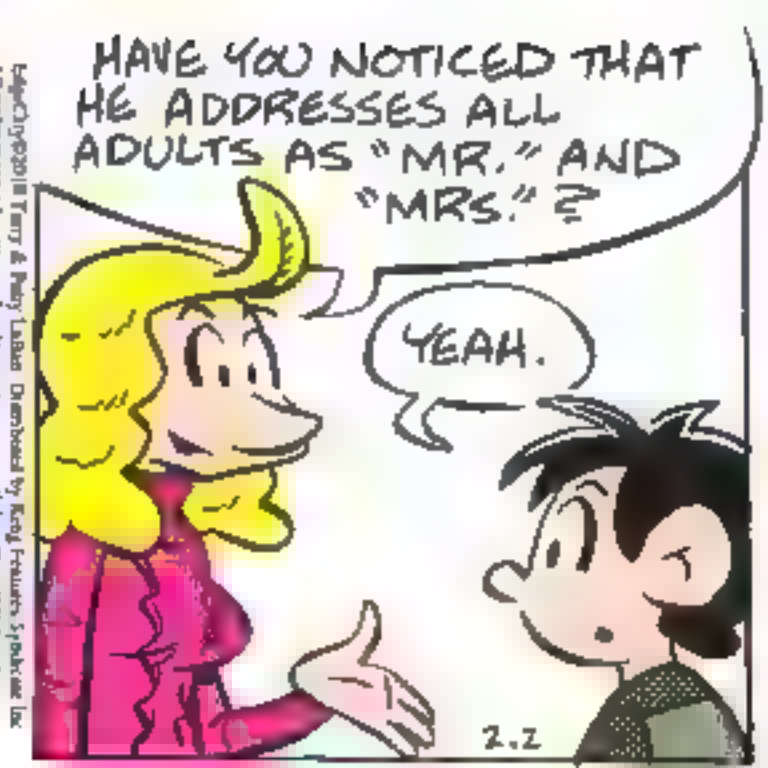

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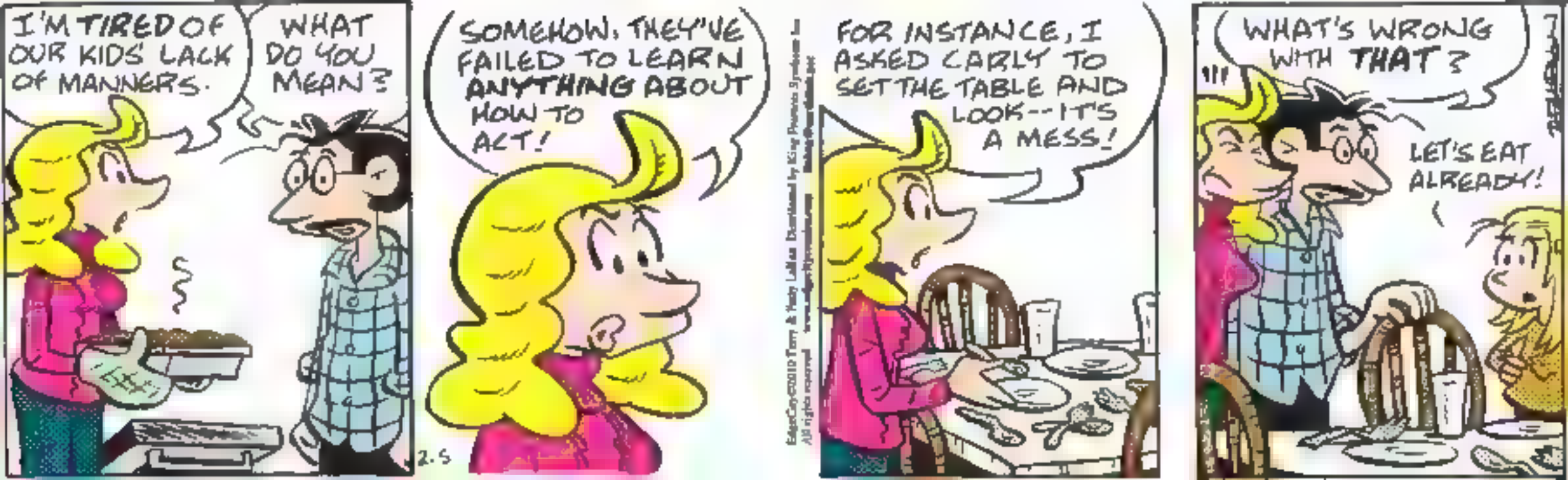
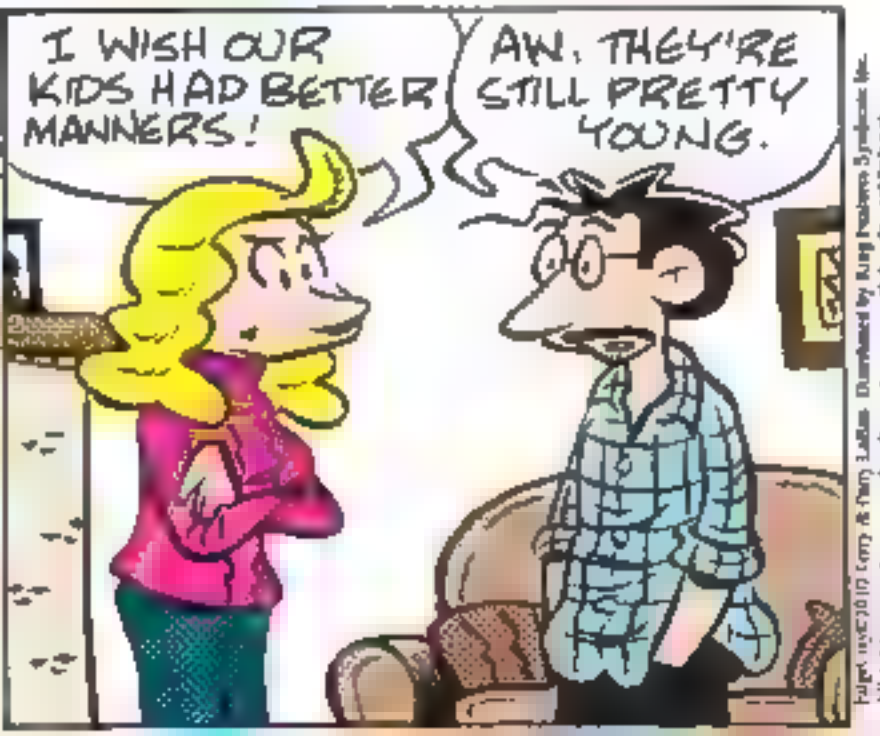
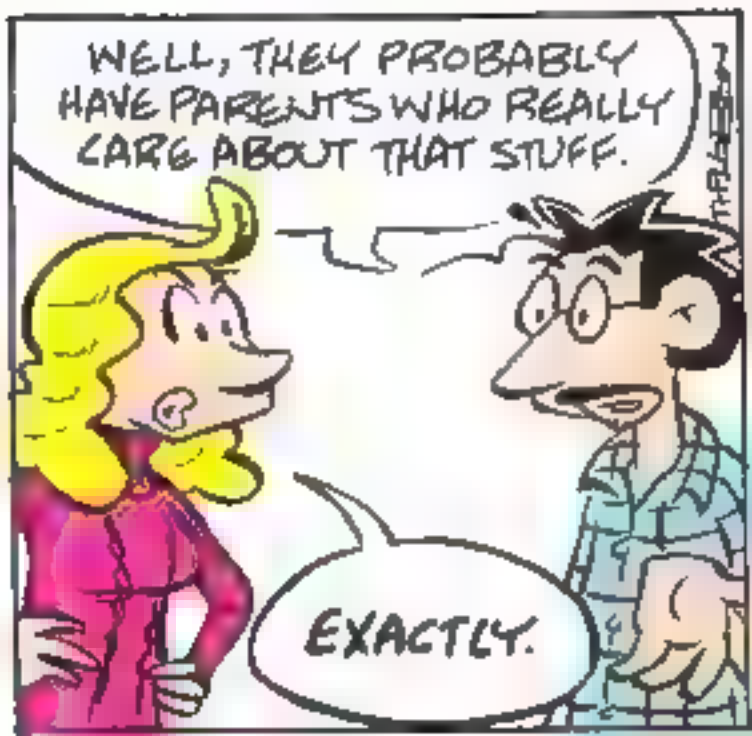
BELCH!!
COLIN, WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS? DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU SAY AFTER YOU BURP LIKE THAT?
SURE!
WASN'T THAT AWESOME?
NO-- "EXCUSE ME"!

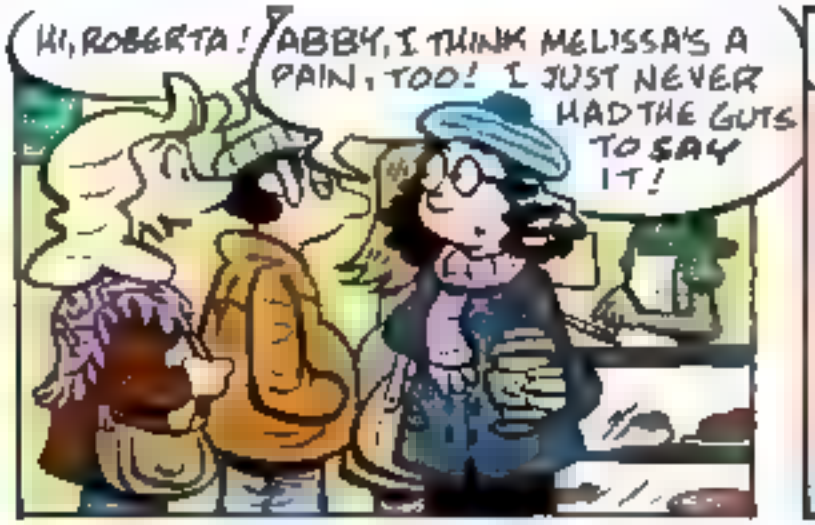

I'M TIRED OF OUR KIDS' LACK OF MANNERS.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SOMEHOW, THEY'VE FAILED TO LEARN ANYTHING ABOUT HOW TO ACT!
FOR INSTANCE, I ASKED CARLY TO SET THE TABLE AND LOOK--IT'S A MESS!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
LET'S EAT ALREADY!

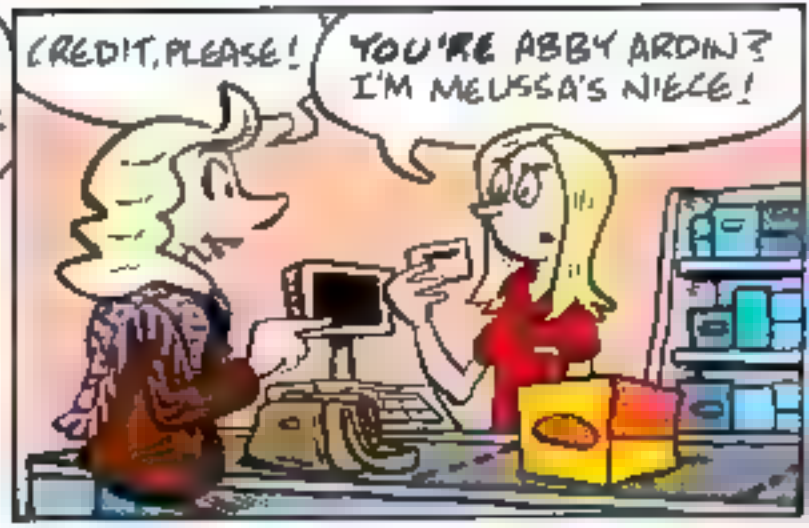

I WISH OUR KIDS HAD BETTER MANNERS!
AW, THEY'RE STILL PRETTY YOUNG.

NO, THEY'RE NOT! PLENTY OF THEIR FRIENDS SAY "PLEASE" AND "THANK YOU". SOME EVEN CALL US "MR." AND "MRS."!
2-6

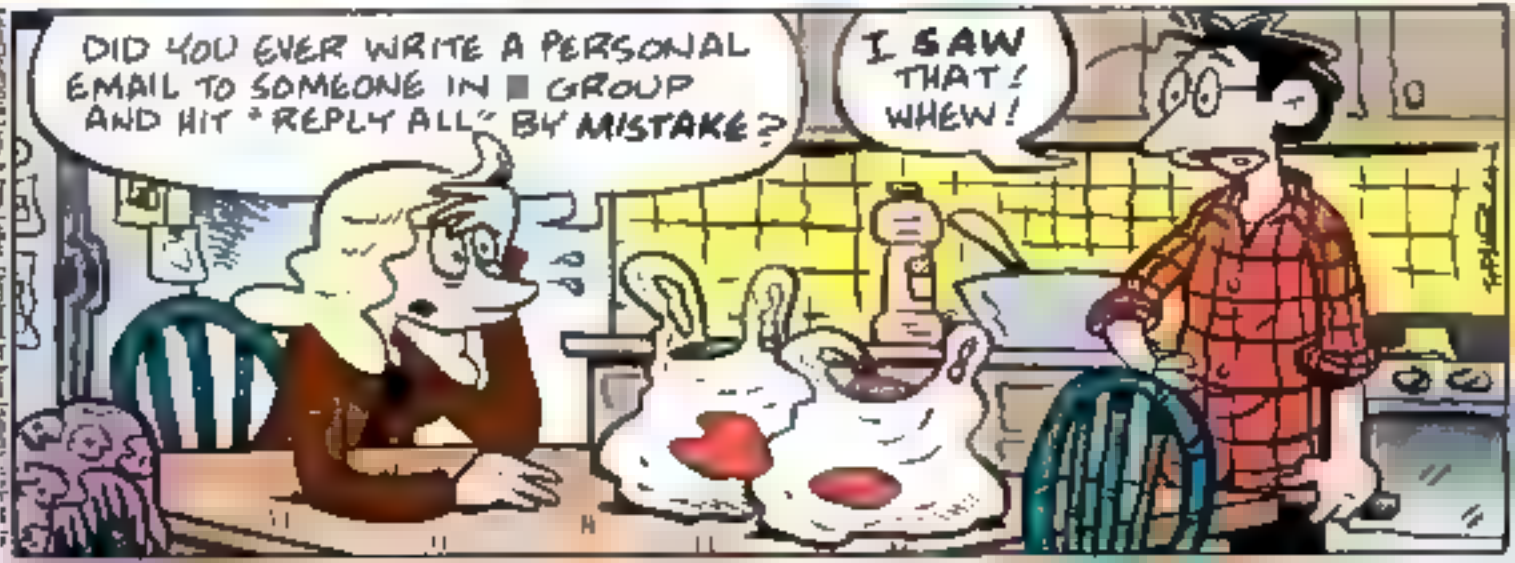

WELL, THEY PROBABLY HAVE PARENTS WHO REALLY CARE ABOUT THAT STUFF.
EXACTLY.

GAIL! HI!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO FRIENDLY AFTER WHAT YOU WROTE ABOUT MELISSA!

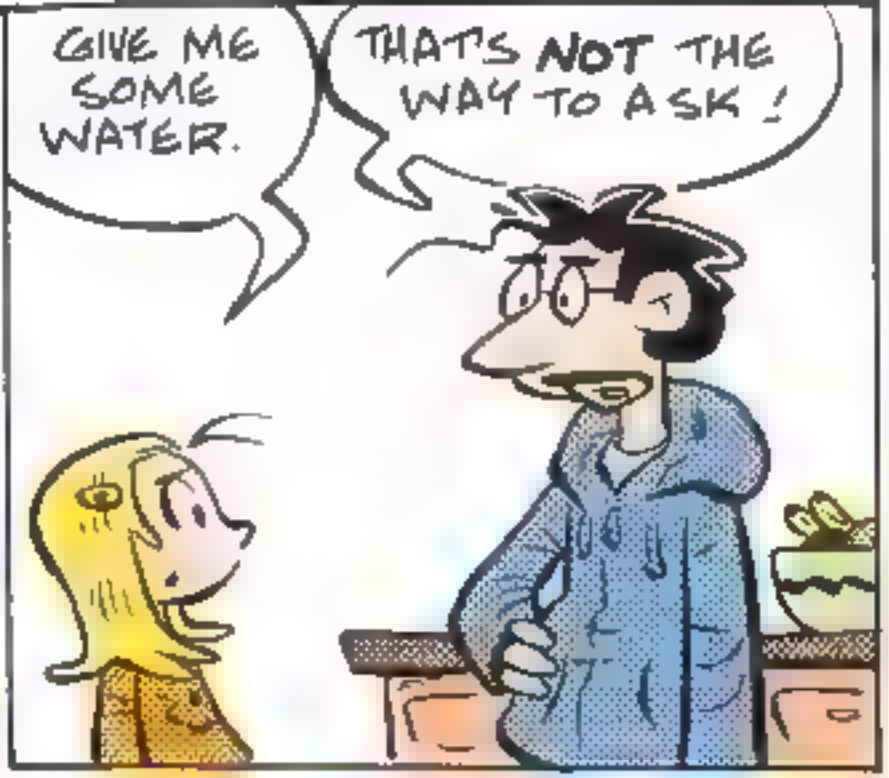

HI, ROBERTA!
ABBY, I THINK MELISSA'S A PAIN, TOO! I JUST NEVER HAD THE GUTS TO SAY IT!

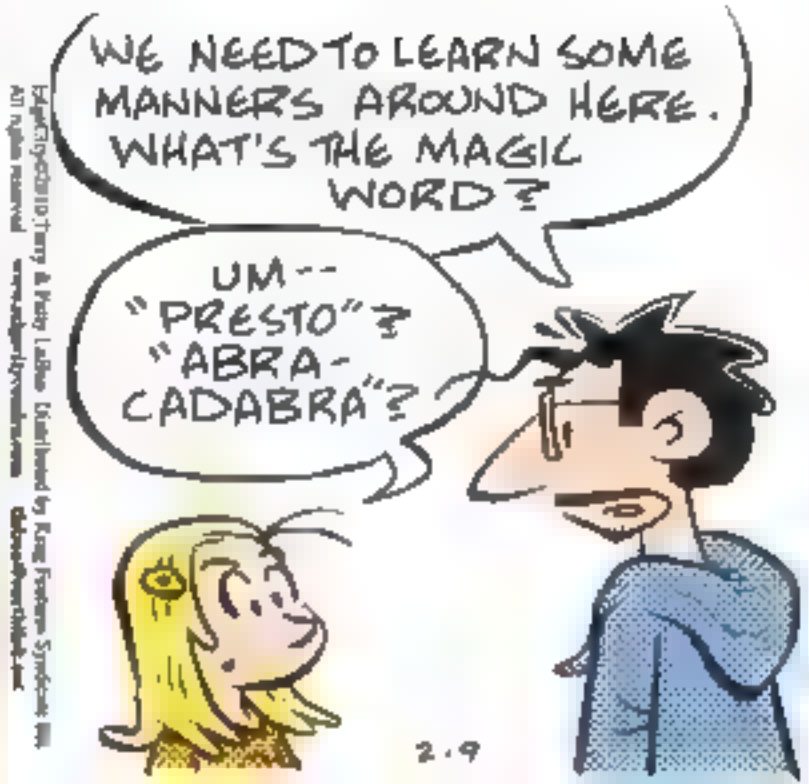

CREDIT, PLEASE!
YOU'RE ABBY ARDIN? I'M MELISSA'S NIECE!

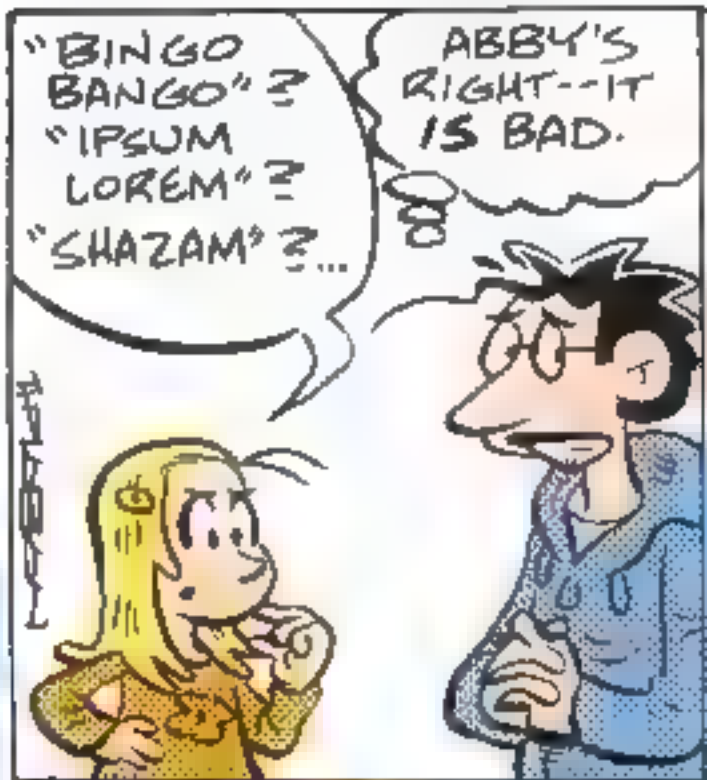
OH, MAN!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?


DID YOU EVER WRITE A PERSONAL EMAIL TO SOMEONE IN A GROUP AND HIT "REPLY ALL" BY MISTAKE?
I SAW THAT! WHEW!

WE NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB OF TEACHING THE KIDS MANNERS, LEN!
AW, THEY'RE OK.
WE'RE A FAMILY, NOT A FINISHING SCHOOL!
MAYBE... BUT "PLEASE" AND "THANK YOU" WOULD BE NICE.
HEY! YOU'RE BLOCKING THE TOASTER OVEN!
NOT TO MENTION "EXCUSE ME."
OK-- YOU HAVE A POINT.







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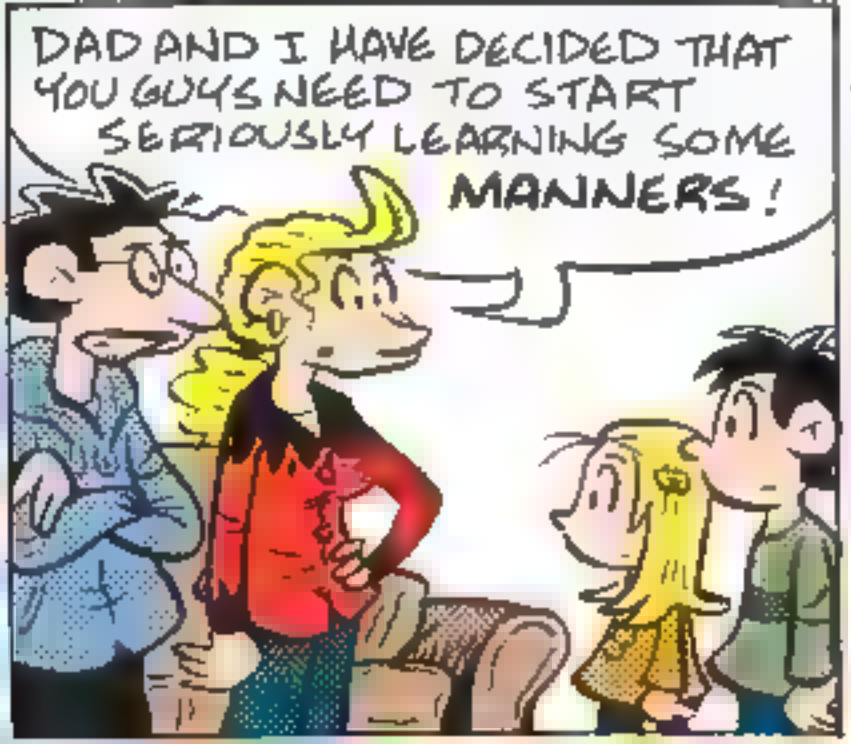
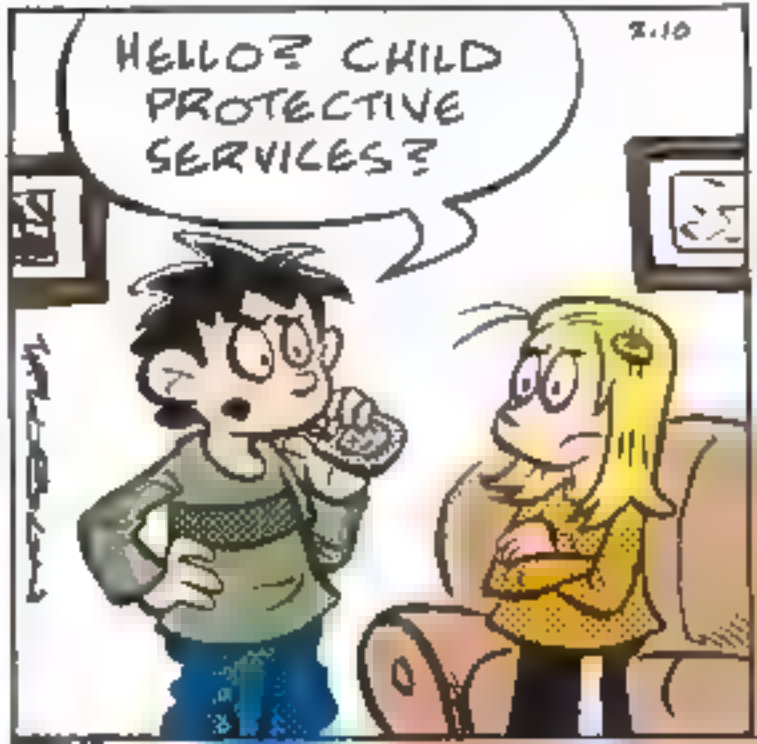
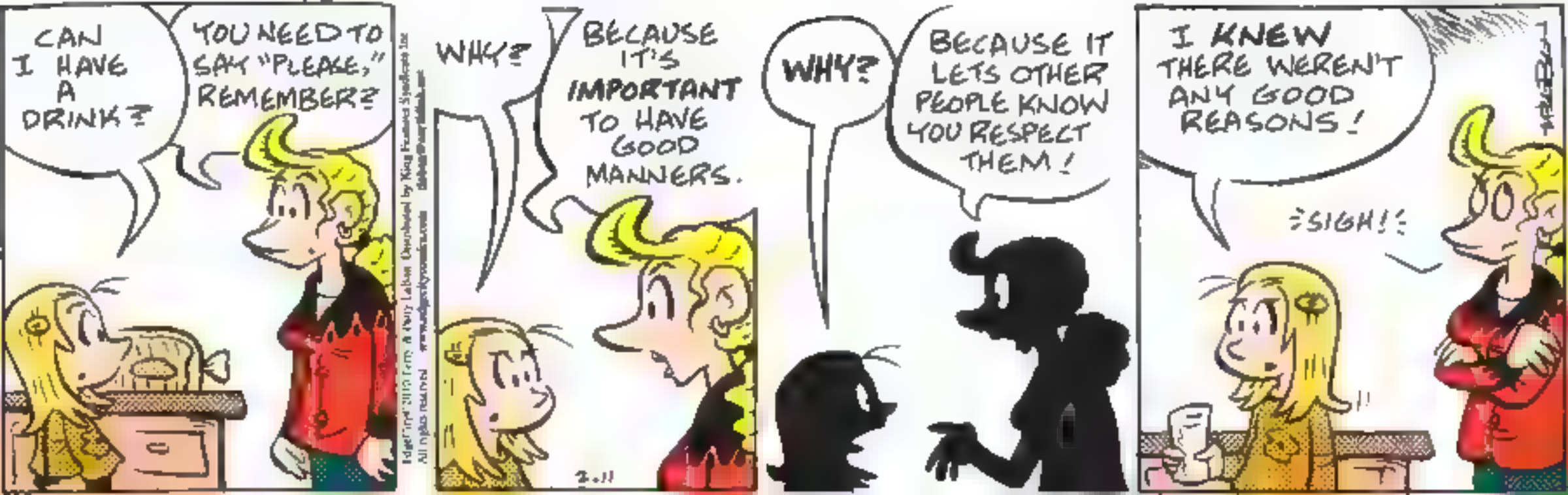
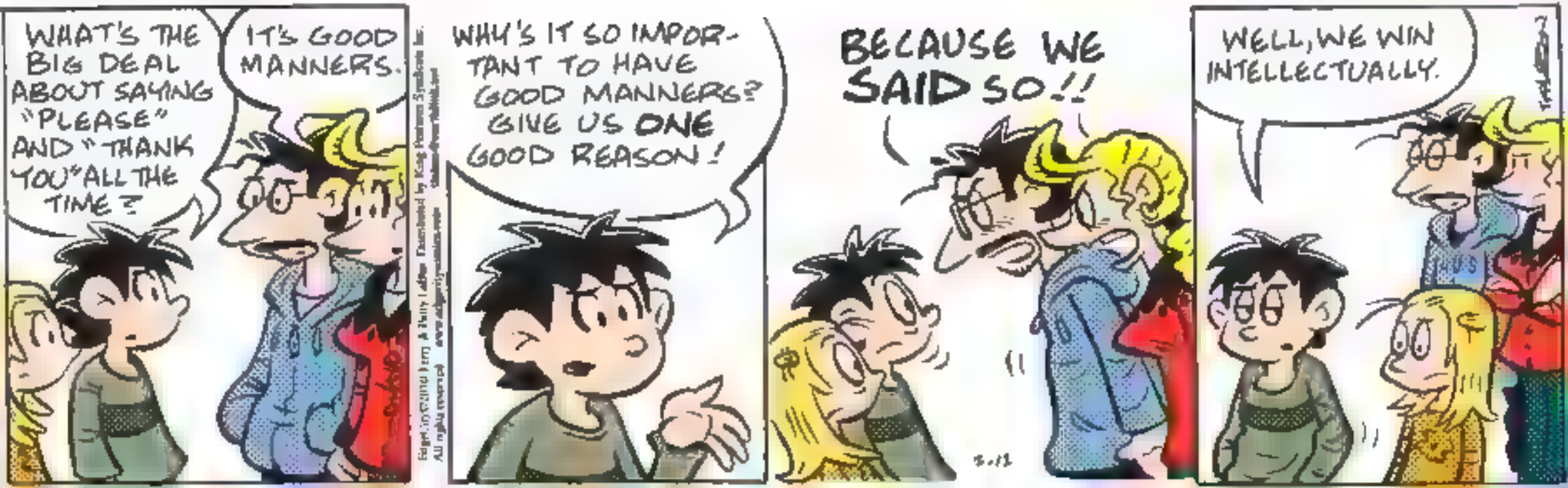

DAD AND I HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU GUYS NEED TO START SERIOUSLY LEARNING SOME MANNERS!

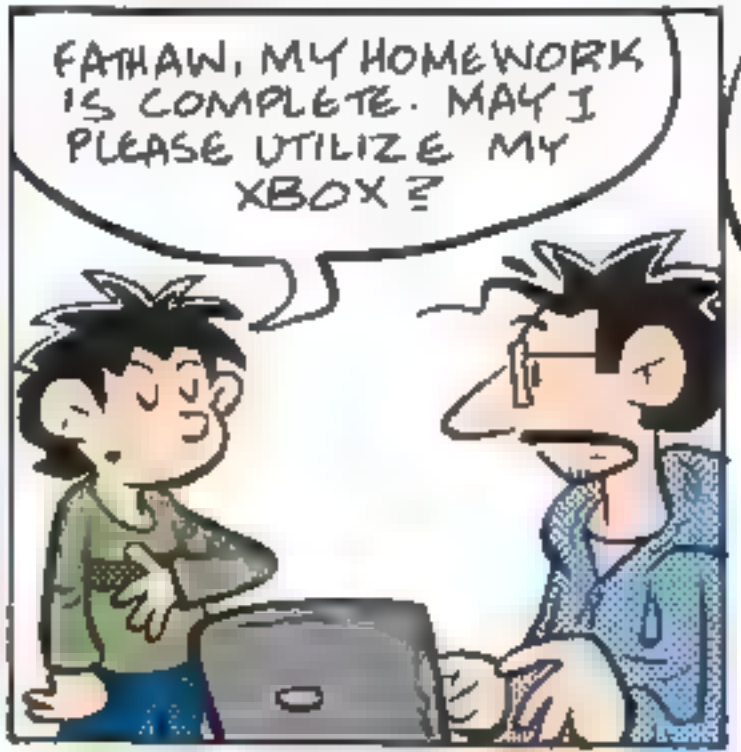
FROM NOW ON, IF YOU WANT SOMETHING, YOU WON'T GET IT UNLESS YOU SAY "PLEASE" AND "THANK YOU"! UNDERSTAND?


HELLO? CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES?

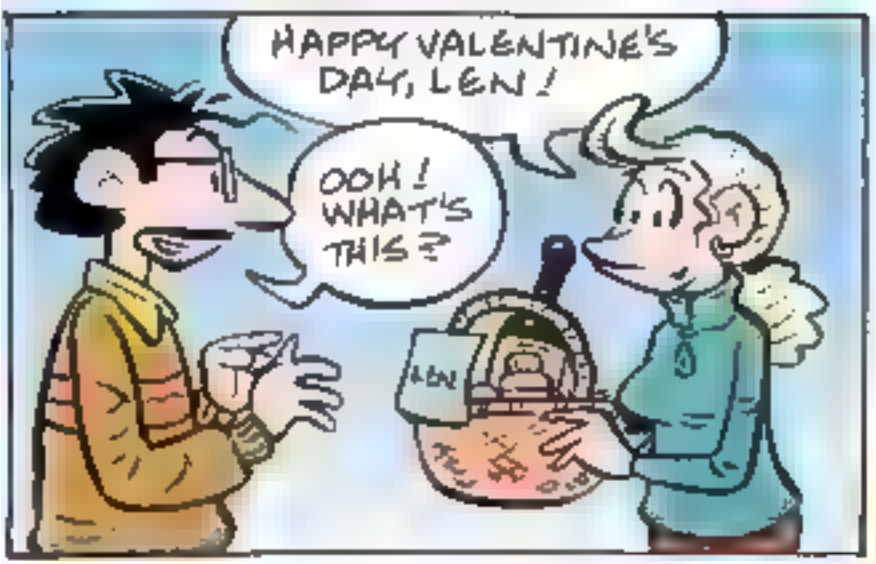

CAN I HAVE A DRINK?
YOU NEED TO SAY "PLEASE," REMEMBER?
WHY?
BECAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE GOOD MANNERS.
WHY?
BECAUSE IT LETS OTHER PEOPLE KNOW YOU RESPECT THEM!
I KNEW THERE WEREN'T ANY GOOD REASONS!
SIGH!


WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT SAYING "PLEASE" AND "THANK YOU" ALL THE TIME?
IT'S GOOD MANNERS.
WHY'S IT SO IMPORTANT TO HAVE GOOD MANNERS? GIVE US ONE GOOD REASON!
BECAUSE WE SAID SO!!
WELL, WE WIN INTELLECTUALLY.

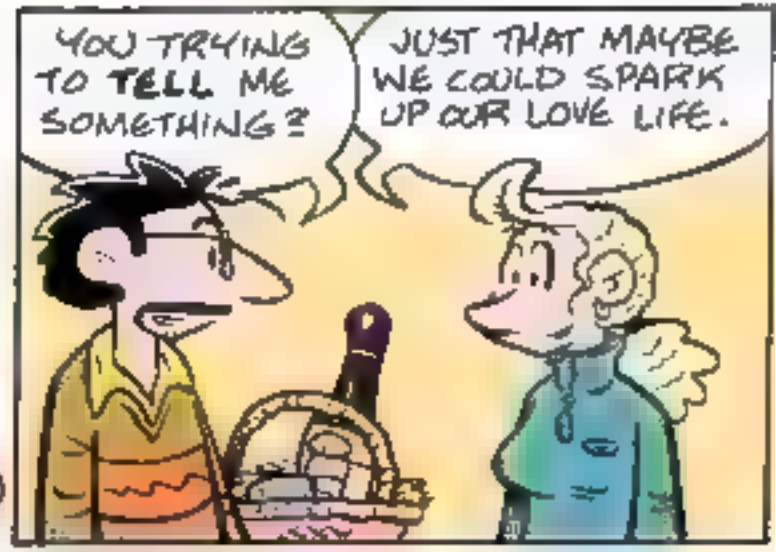
MOTHAW, I SUFFAH FROM THIRST. MIGHT I OBTAIN SOME WATAH, PLEASE?


FATHAW, MY HOMEWORK IS COMPLETE. MAY I PLEASE UTILIZE MY XBOX?

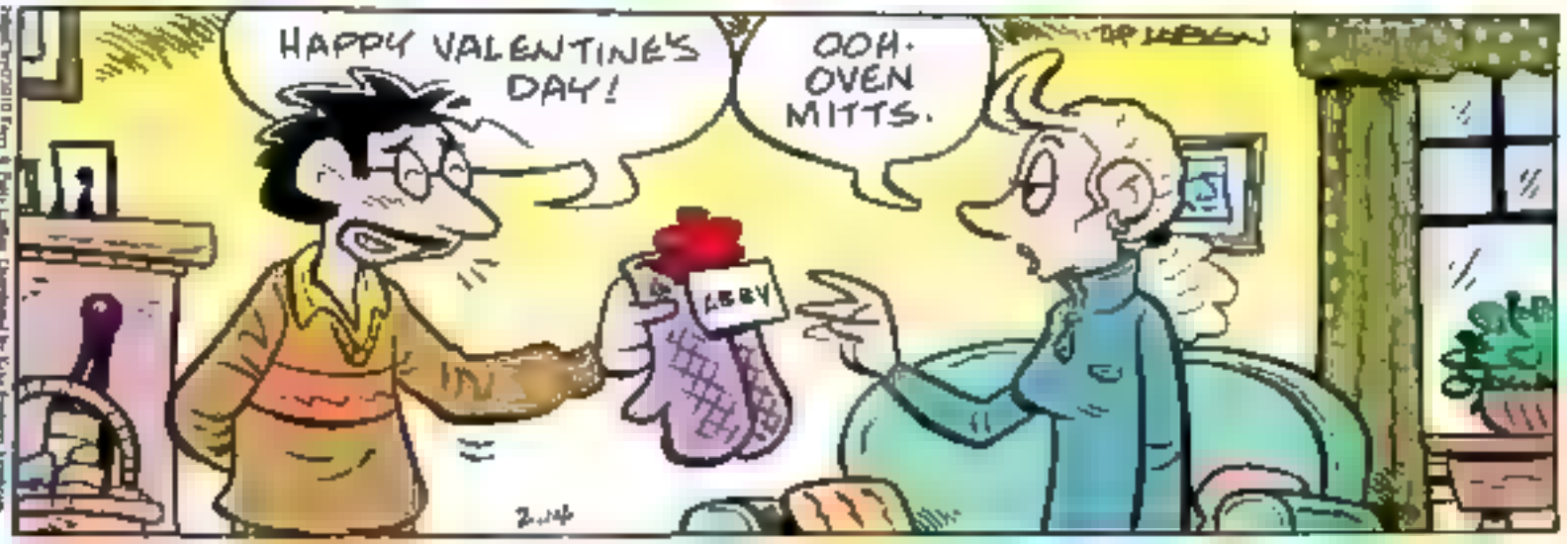
IT'S NICE THE KIDS ARE FINALLY BEING POLITE. I JUST WISH THEY WEREN'T SO SNARKY.
NEVER MIND-- WHEN THEY FORGET TO USE THE PHONY ENGLISH ACCENTS, WE'VE WON.

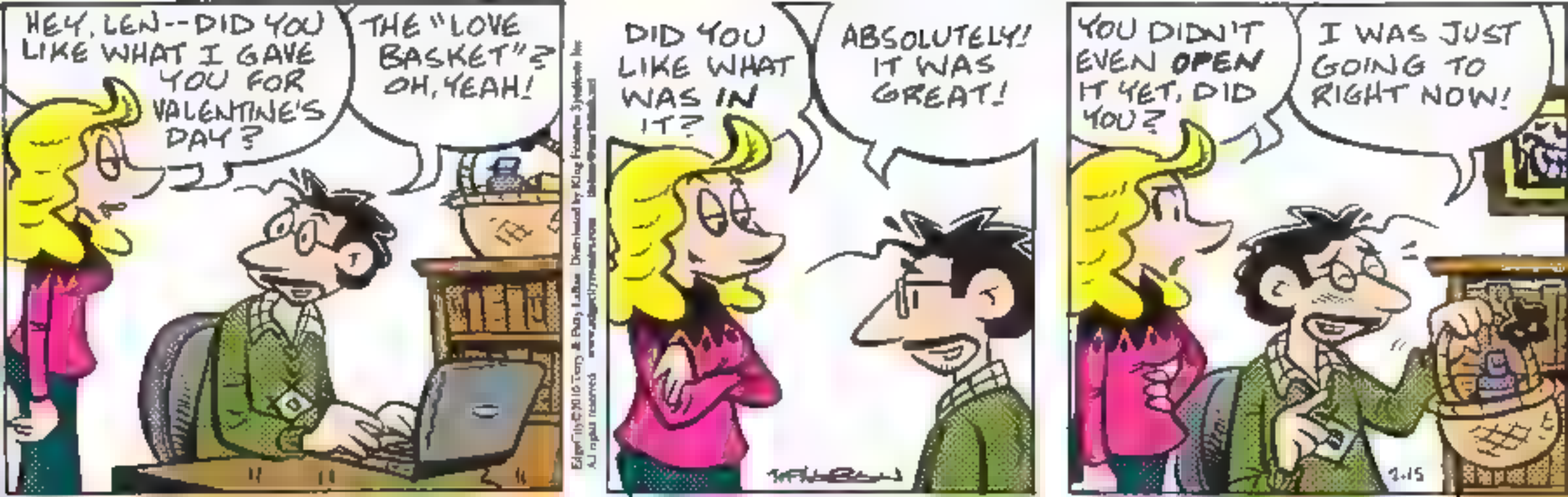

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, LEN!
OOH! WHAT'S THIS?
LEN

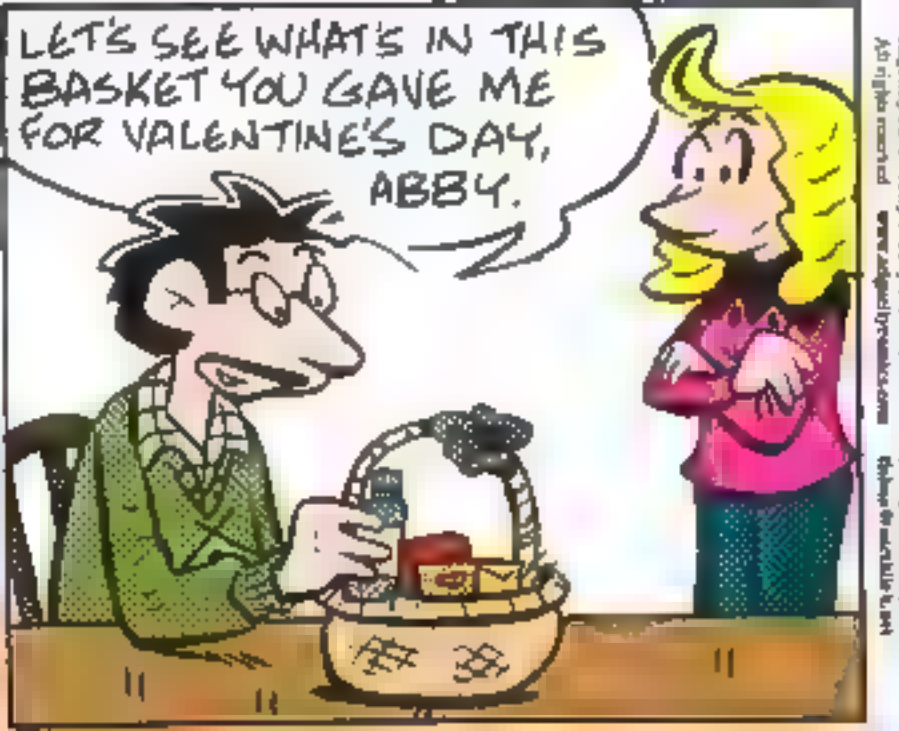
A BASKET WITH MASSAGE OIL, CANDLES, ROSE PETALS AND CHAMPAGNE?


YOU TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING?
JUST THAT MAYBE WE COULD SPARK UP OUR LOVE LIFE.

WE GET SO CAUGHT UP IN OUR DAY-TO-DAY ROUTINES, WE FORGET TO BE ROMANTIC.
HEH! MAYBE THAT'S TRUE...


HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
OOH. OVEN MITTS.
LEEV


HEY, LEN--DID YOU LIKE WHAT I GAVE YOU FOR VALENTINE'S DAY?
THE "LOVE BASKET"? OH, YEAH!
DID YOU LIKE WHAT WAS IN IT?
ABSOLUTELY! IT WAS GREAT!
YOU DIDN'T EVEN OPEN IT YET, DID YOU?
I WAS JUST GOING TO RIGHT NOW!



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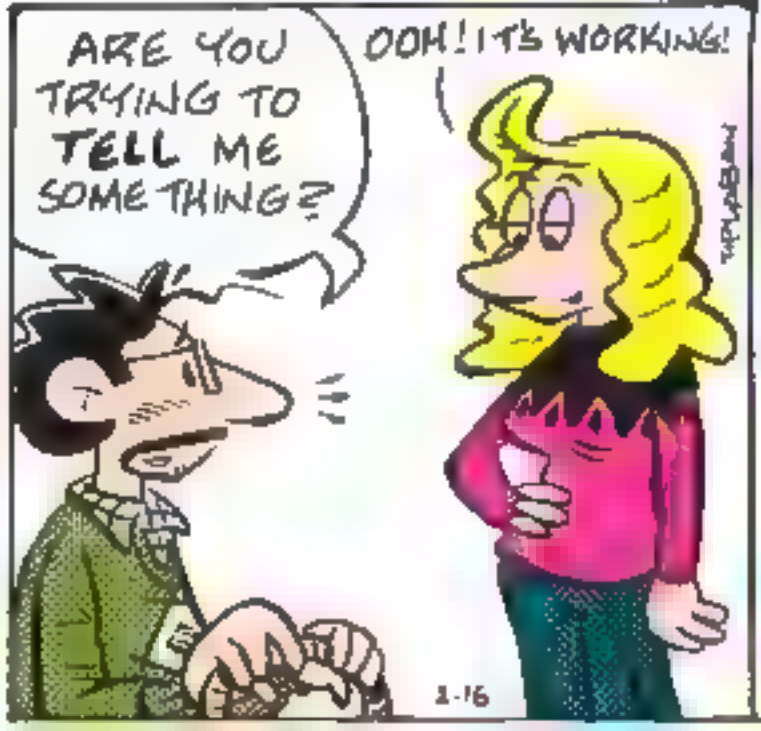

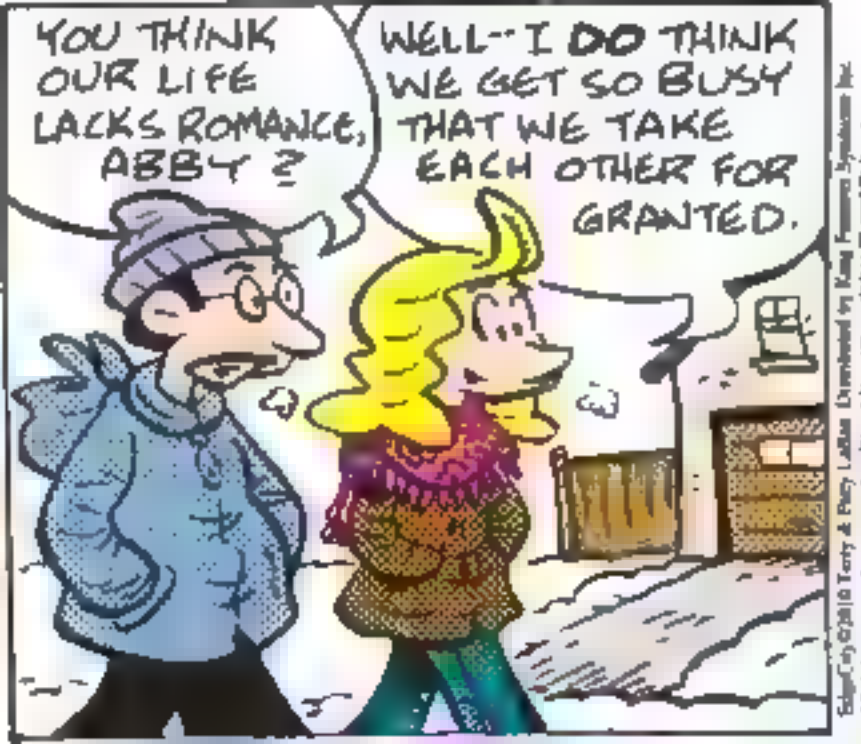

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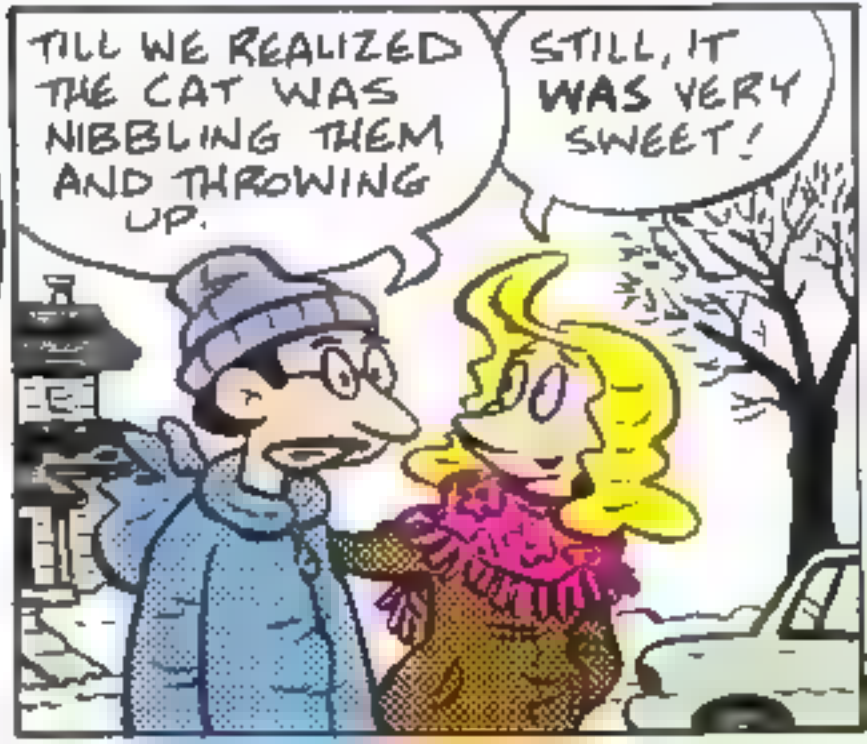
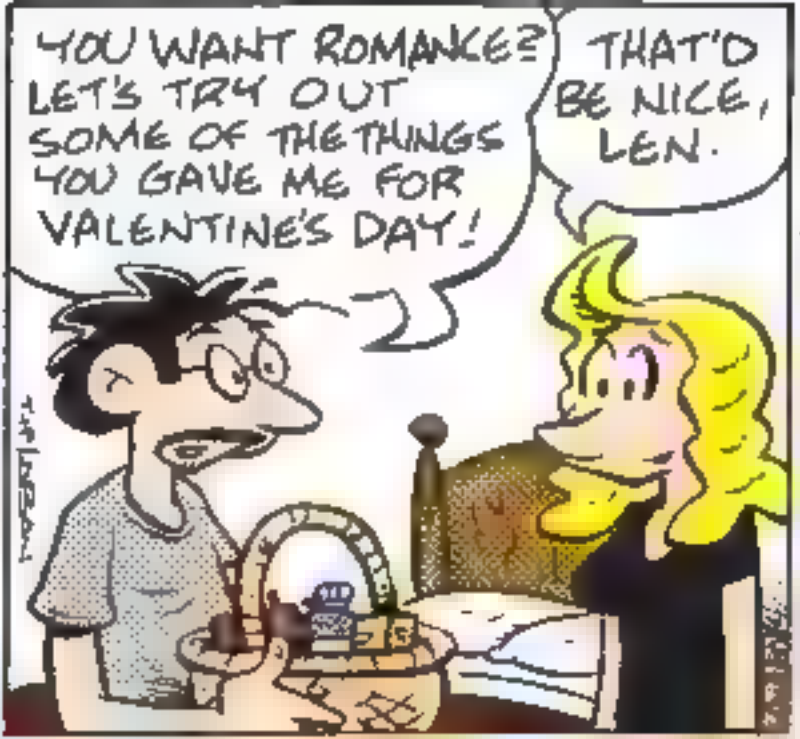


SO, YOU WANT ME TO BE MORE ROMANTIC, ABBY?
I THINK IT'D DO A LOT FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP.
TAKE THE LEAD! THINK OF SOME LITTLE SURPRISES THAT WOULD MAKE ME FEEL SPECIAL!
OK...
... ANY SUGGESTIONS?
NO, NO, NO...
2-18



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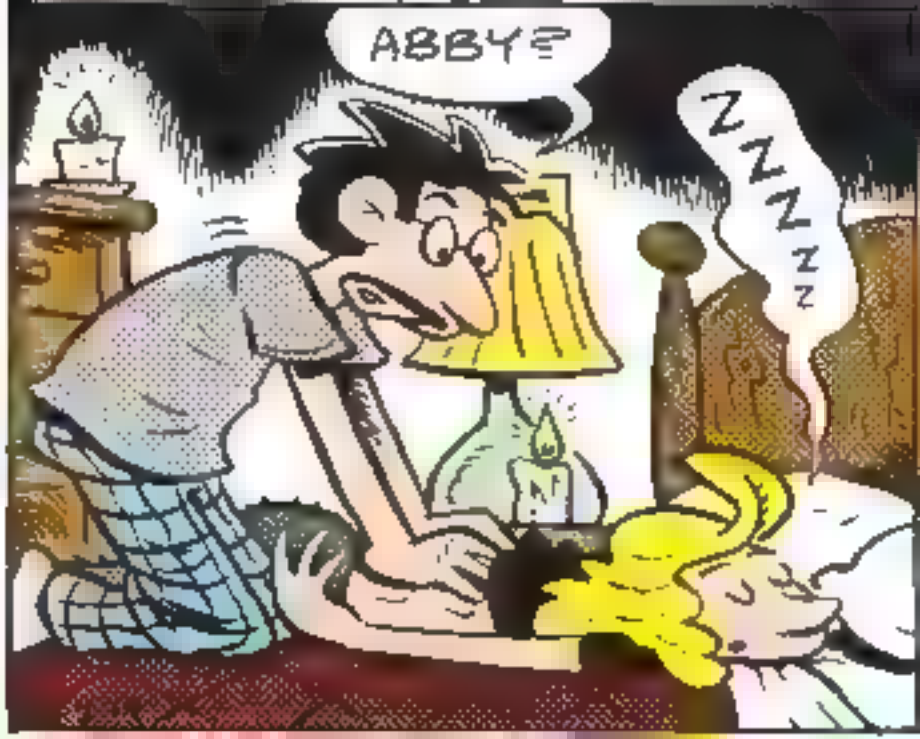
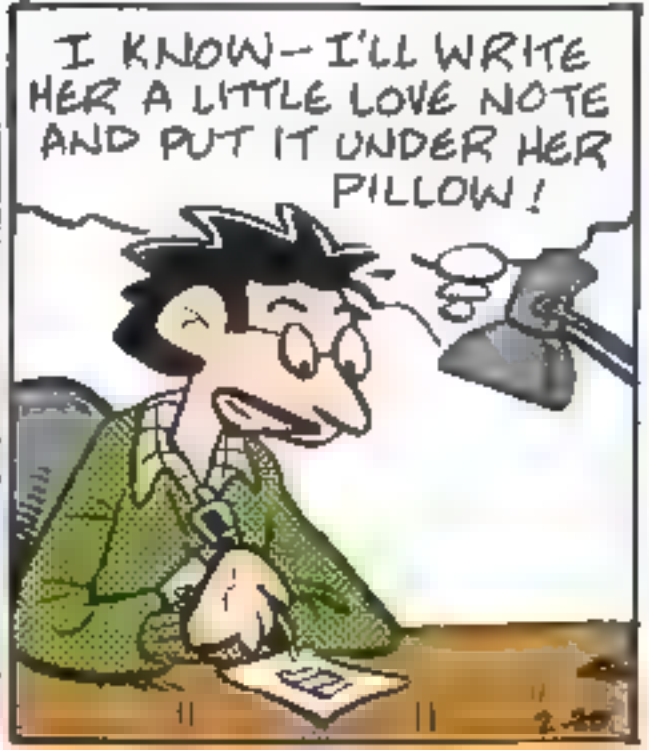
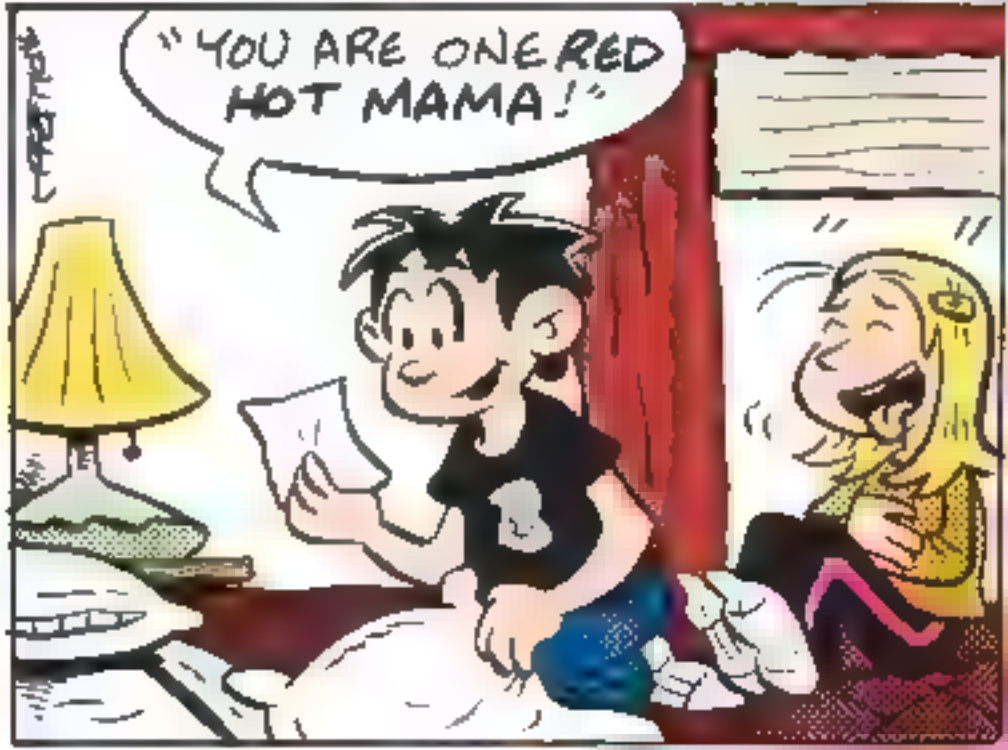
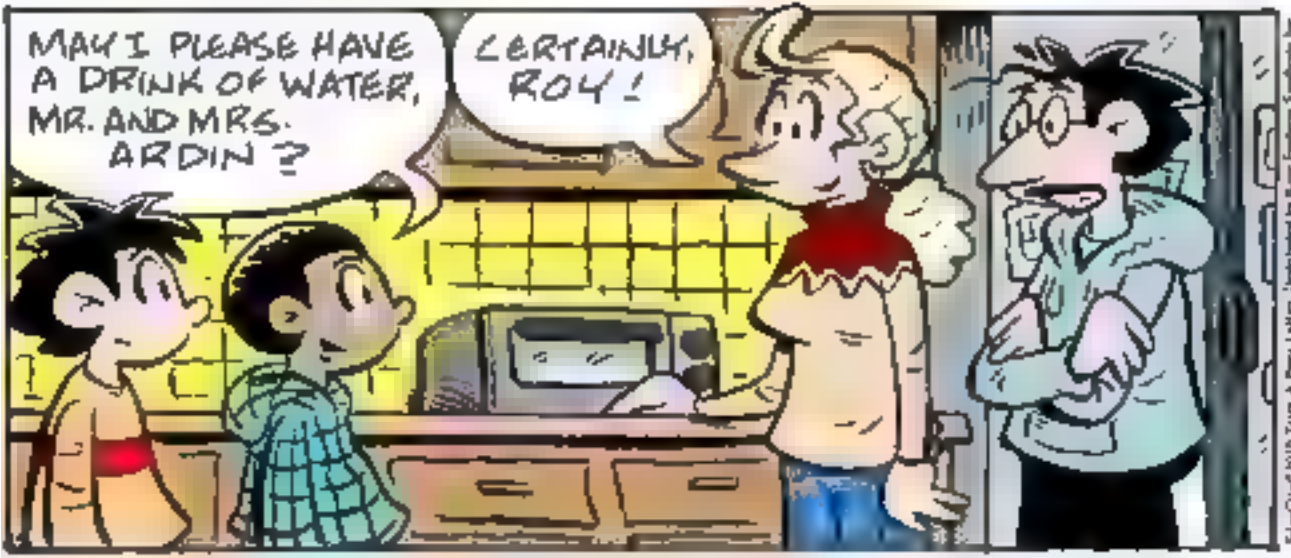


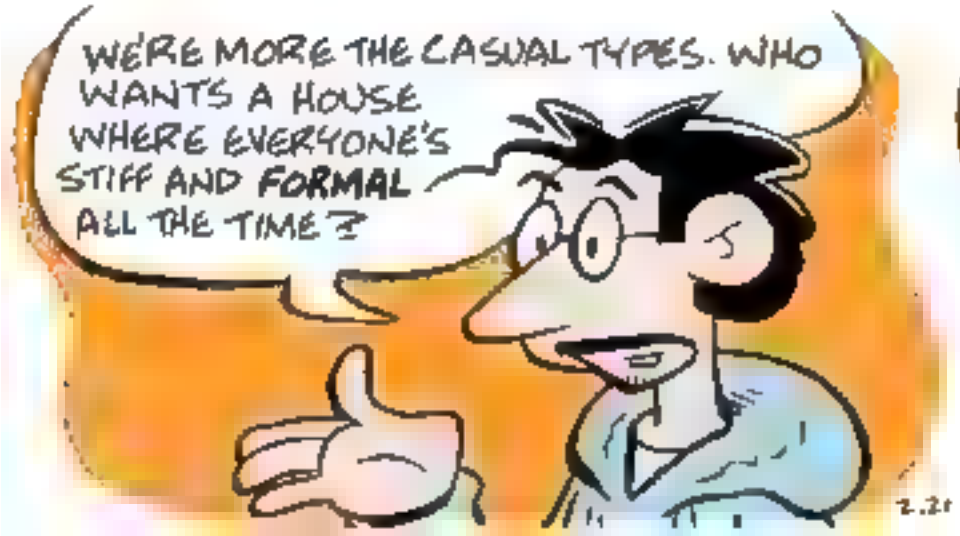
ABBY WANTS ME TO BE MORE ROMANTIC.


I KNOW—I'LL WRITE HER A LITTLE LOVE NOTE AND PUT IT UNDER HER PILLOW!

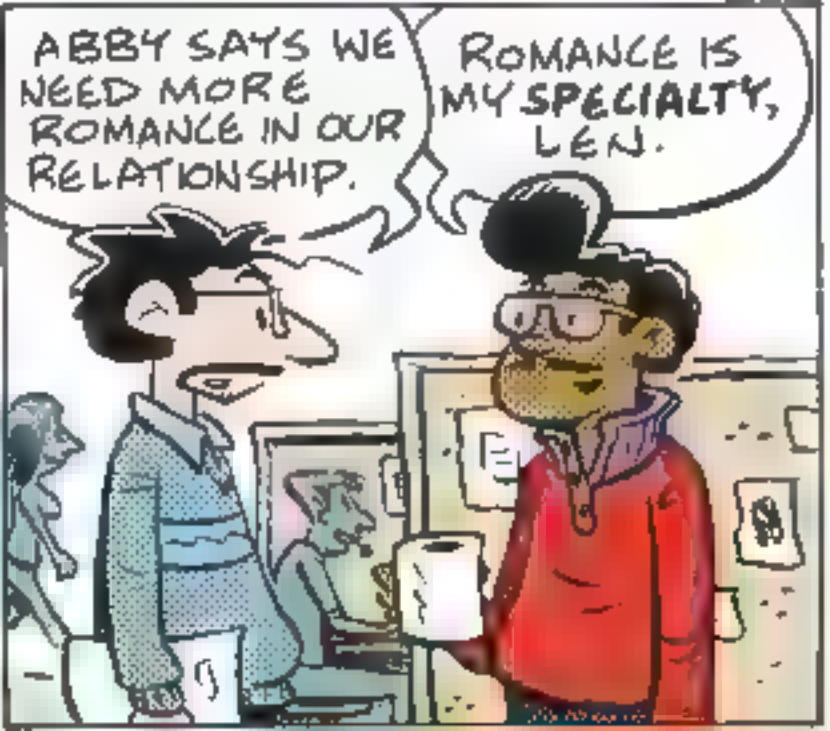

"YOU ARE ONE RED HOT MAMA!"


MAY I PLEASE HAVE A DRINK OF WATER, MR. AND MRS. ARDIN?
CERTAINLY, ROY!

HE'S SO POLITE! I WISH WE DID A BETTER JOB OF TEACHING OUR KIDS MANNERS.
AW, THEY'RE ALL RIGHT.


WE'RE MORE THE CASUAL TYPES. WHO WANTS A HOUSE WHERE EVERYONE'S STIFF AND FORMAL ALL THE TIME?

YO! WADDAYA HAVE TO DO TO GET A SNACK IN THIS DUMP?
ON THE OTHER HAND, I THINK THERE IS A MIDDLE GROUND...



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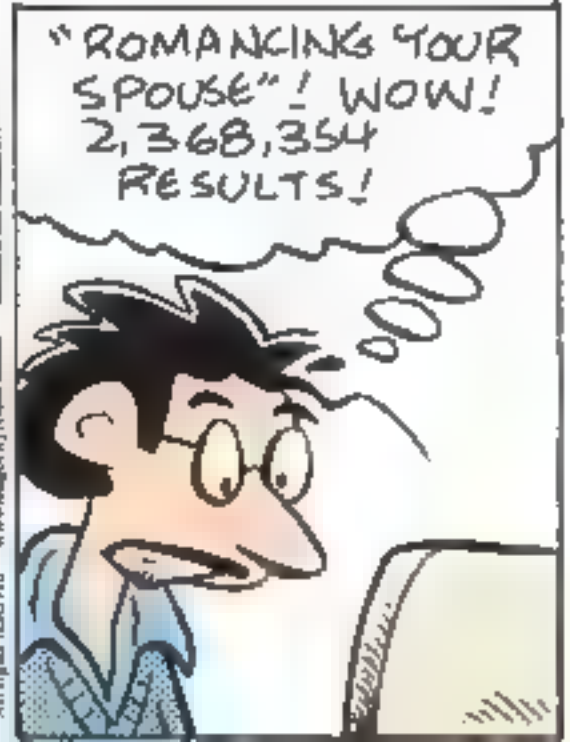
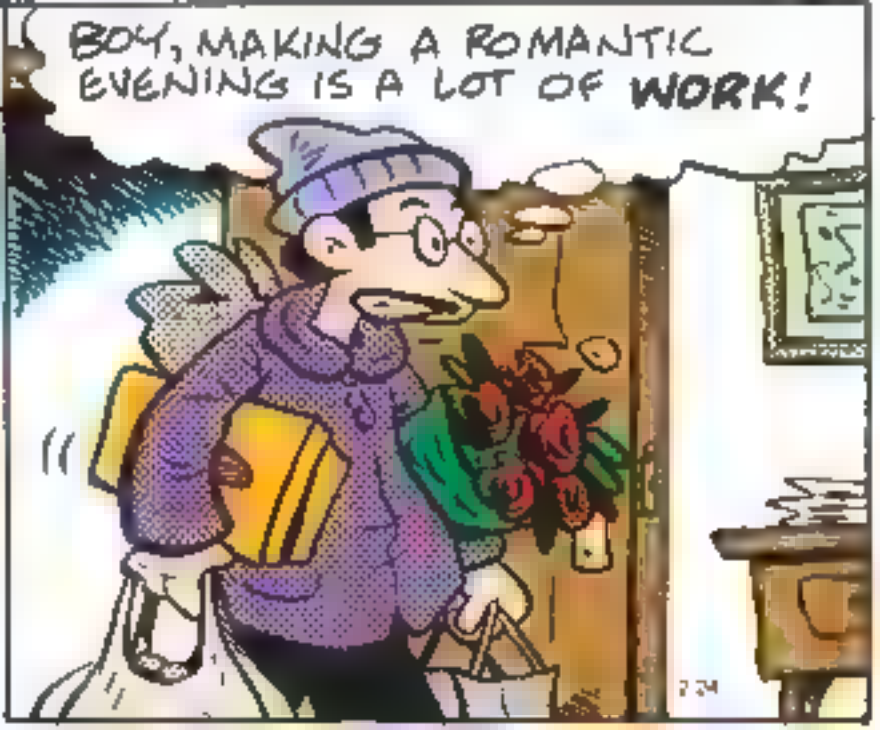
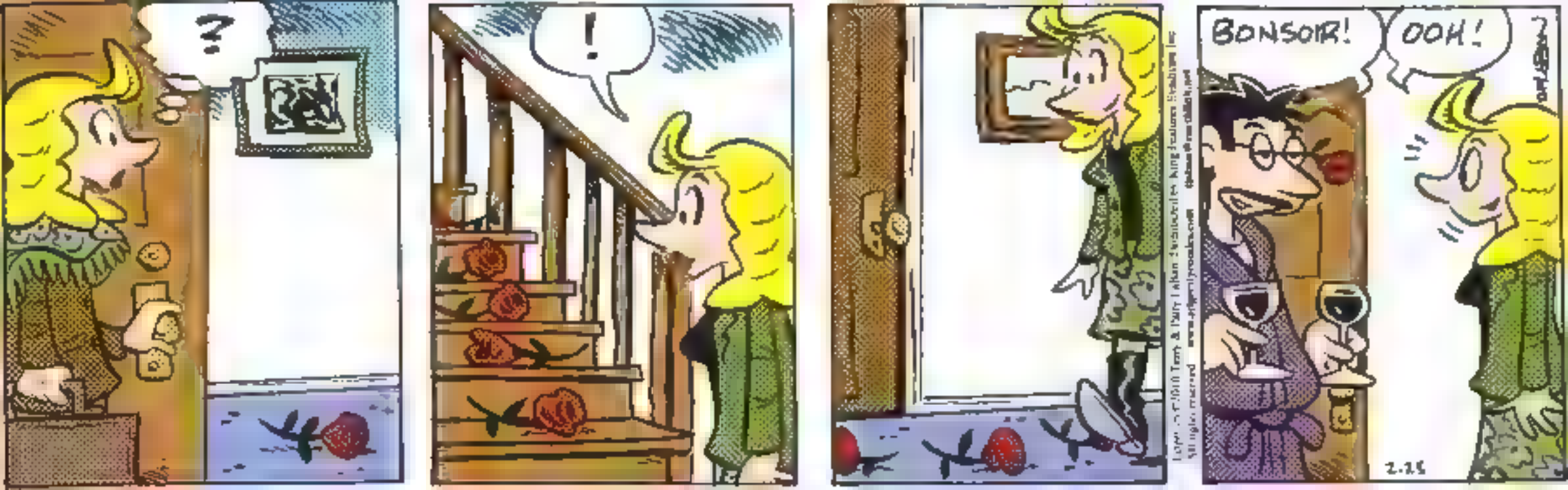


Step 1:
Creating the proper mood is important. Make sure you give yourself enough time to prepare.

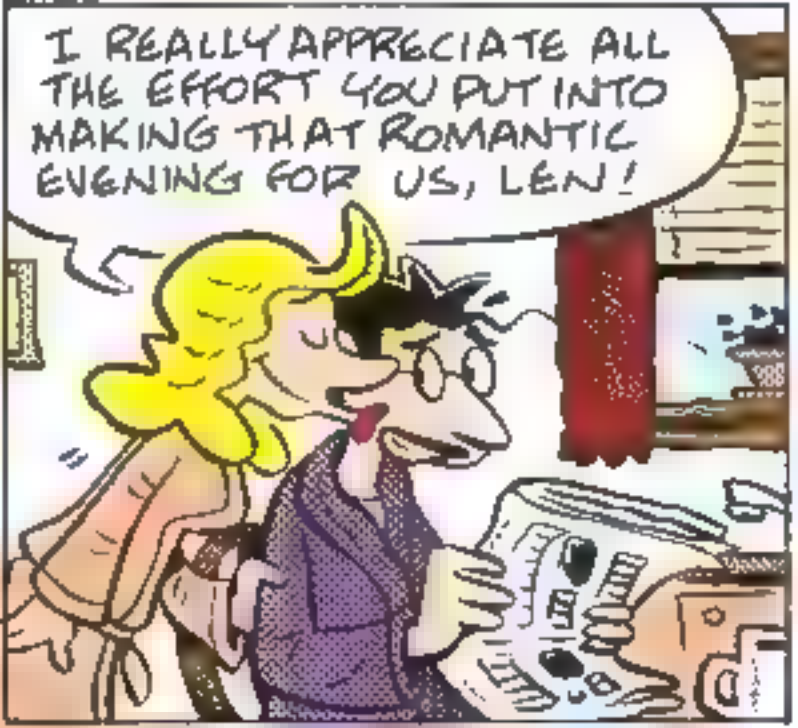

BOY, MAKING A ROMANTIC EVENING IS A LOT OF WORK!

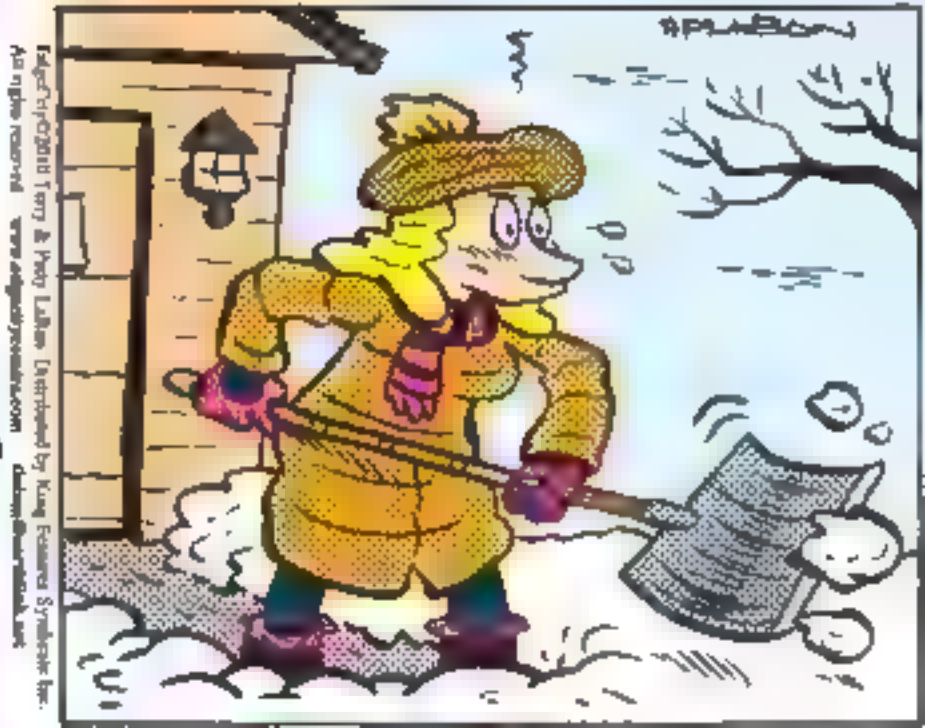
I'VE GOT TO CLEAN, COOK, CHILL WINE, STREW ROSE-BUDS...
CHOP! CHOP!
RIIING!

HI, HONEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
OH... NOTHING!


?
!
BONSOIR!
OOH!
2.25

A WONDERFUL MEAL, CANDLES, FLOWERS, THE KIDS AT MY PARENTS'... THIS REALLY IS A ROMANTIC EVENING!
I REALLY APPRECIATE THIS, LEN! IT'S EVERYTHING I COULD ASK FOR.
THANKS, HONEY.
WHEN CAN WE DO IT AGAIN?
LET'S CHECK OUR SCHEDULES WHEN THIS MAGIC NIGHT IS THROUGH.
2-26





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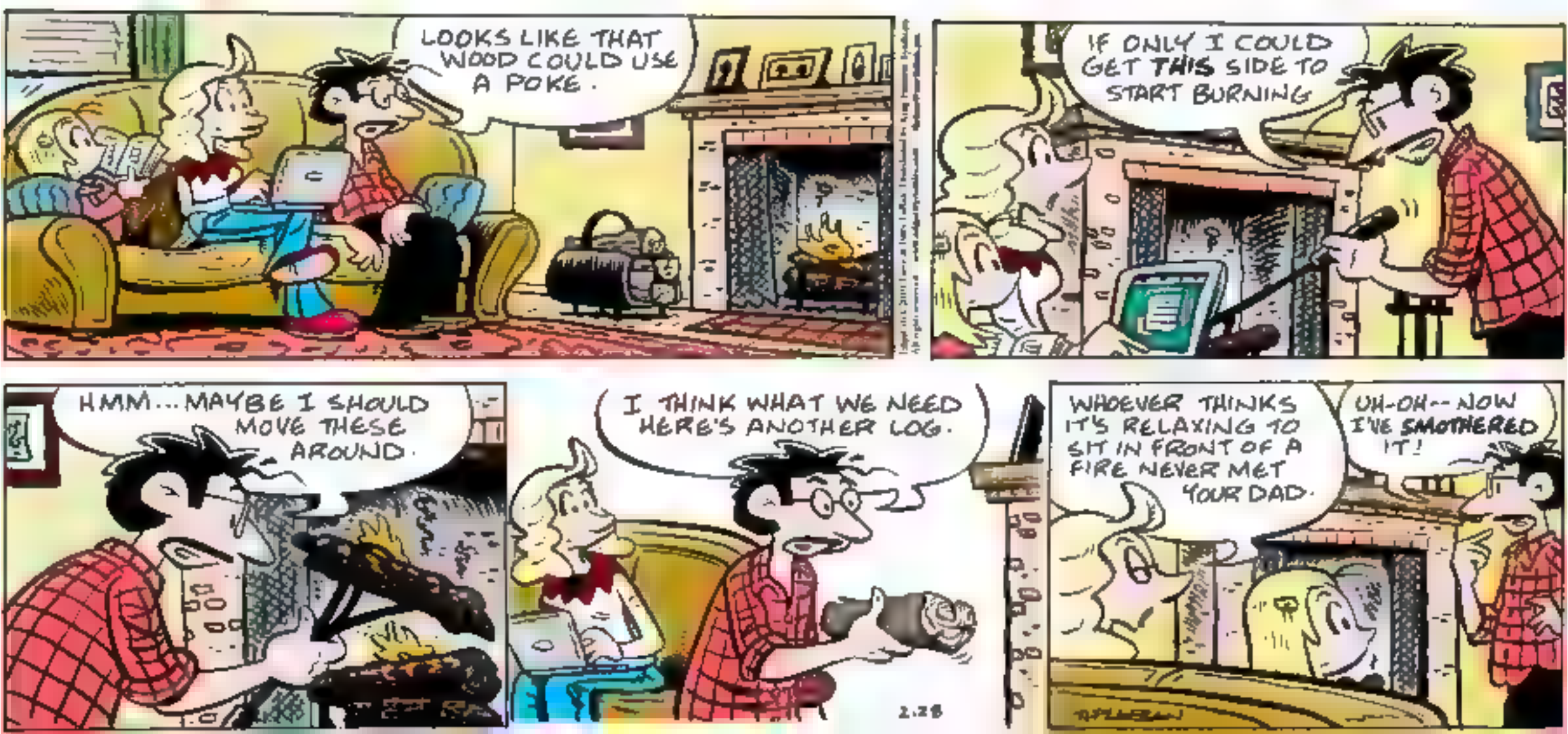
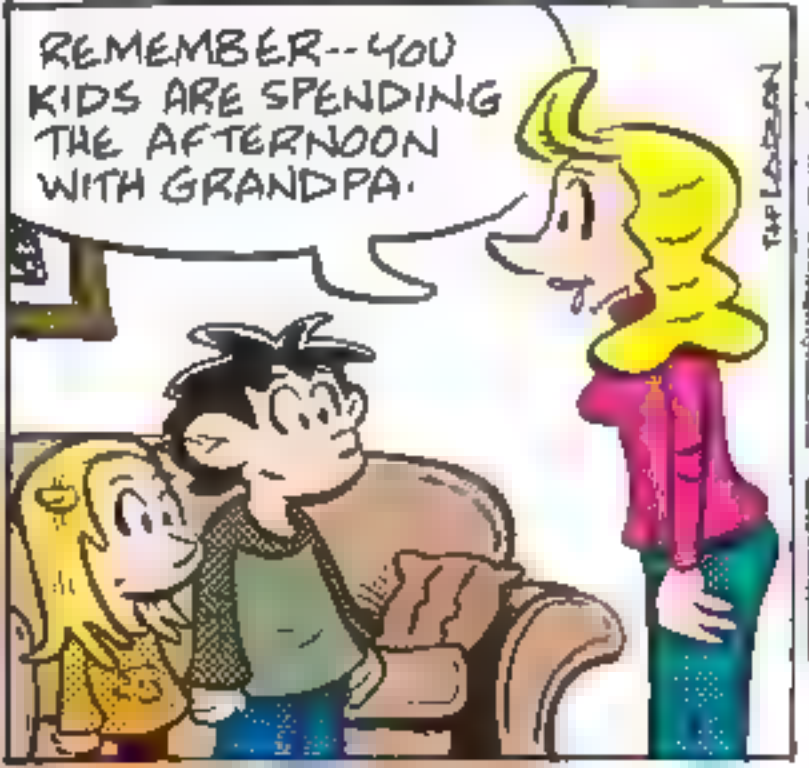

LOOKS LIKE THAT WOOD COULD USE A POKE.
IF ONLY I COULD GET THIS SIDE TO START BURNING
HMM... MAYBE I SHOULD MOVE THESE AROUND.
I THINK WHAT WE NEED HERE'S ANOTHER LOG.
2.28
WHOEVER THINKS IT'S RELAXING TO SIT IN FRONT OF A FIRE NEVER MET YOUR DAD.
UH-OH-- NOW I'VE SMOTHERED IT!



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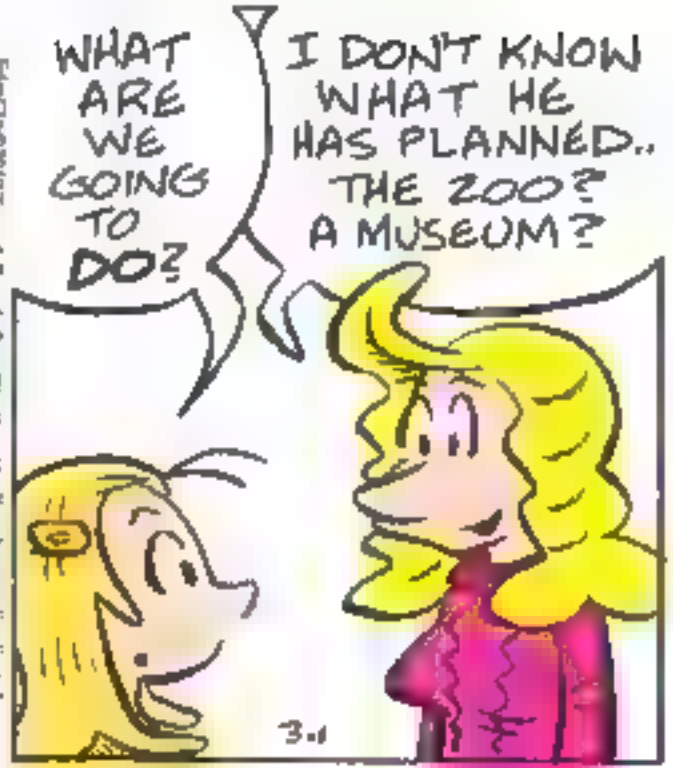

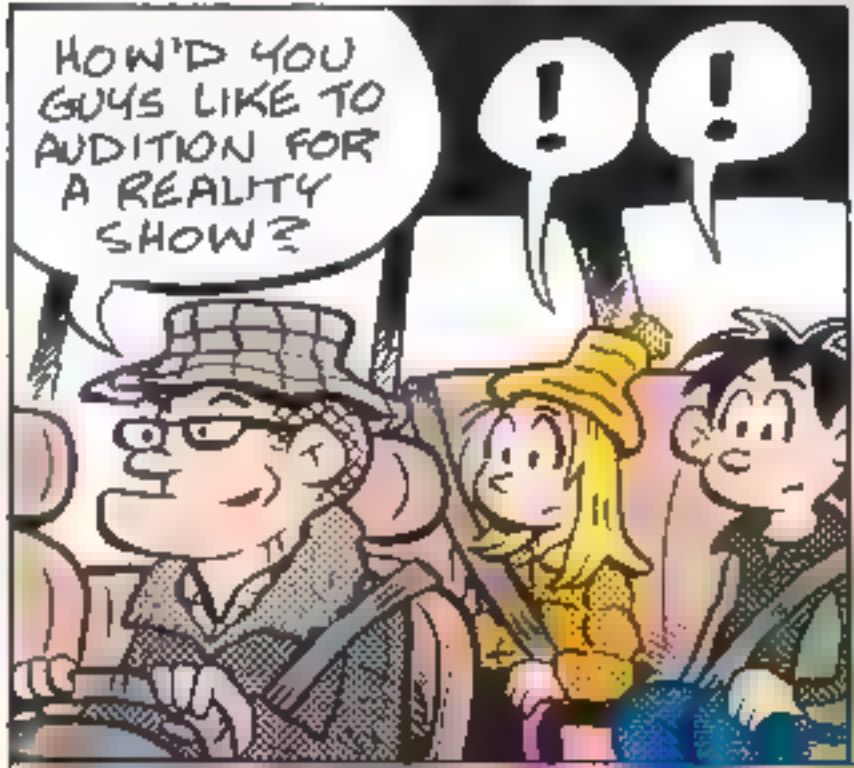

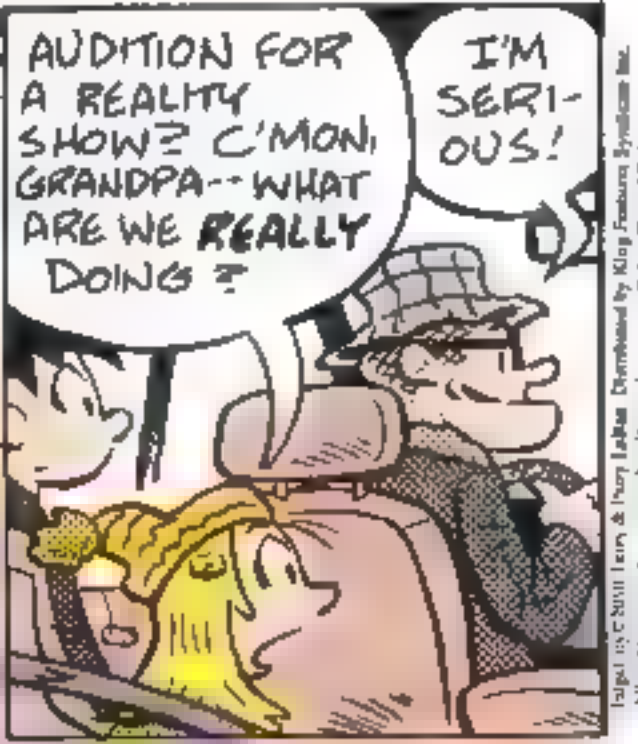

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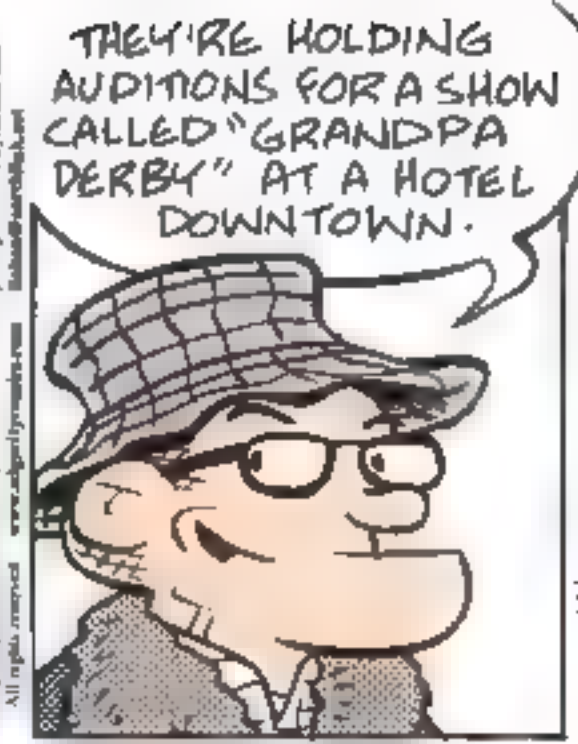

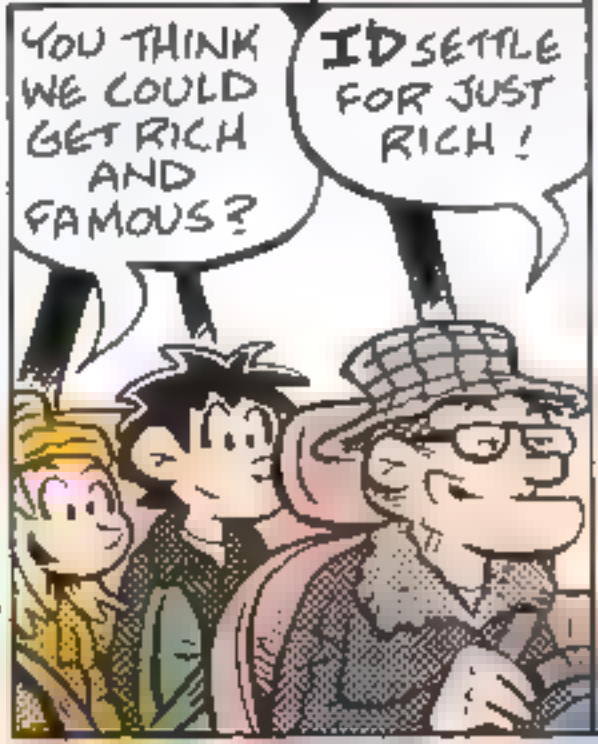

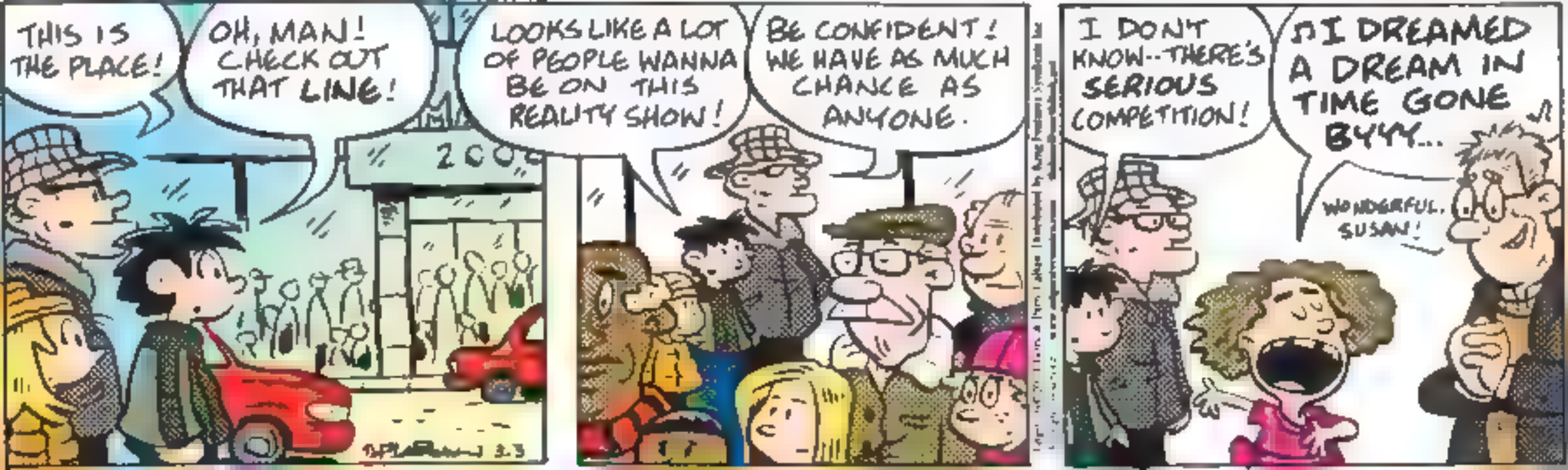
THIS IS THE PLACE!
OH, MAN! CHECK OUT THAT LINE!
ZOO
LOOKS LIKE A LOT OF PEOPLE WANNA BE ON THIS REALITY SHOW!
BE CONFIDENT! WE HAVE AS MUCH CHANCE AS ANYONE.
I DON'T KNOW--THERE'S SERIOUS COMPETITION!
♫I DREAMED A DREAM IN TIME GONE BYYY...♫
WONDERFUL, SUSAN!

STOP IT!

NO! YOU STOP IT!

DOGGONE IT! CUT THAT OUT!

HOW MUCH LONGER DO WE HAVE TO WAIT?

AS LONG AS WE NEED TO! YOU WANNA BE ON TV, DON'T YOU?

I'M HUNGRY!

I'M BORED!

I'M LOSING IT!!

UM, SIR--COULD I TALK TO YOU A MINUTE?

S-SURE!

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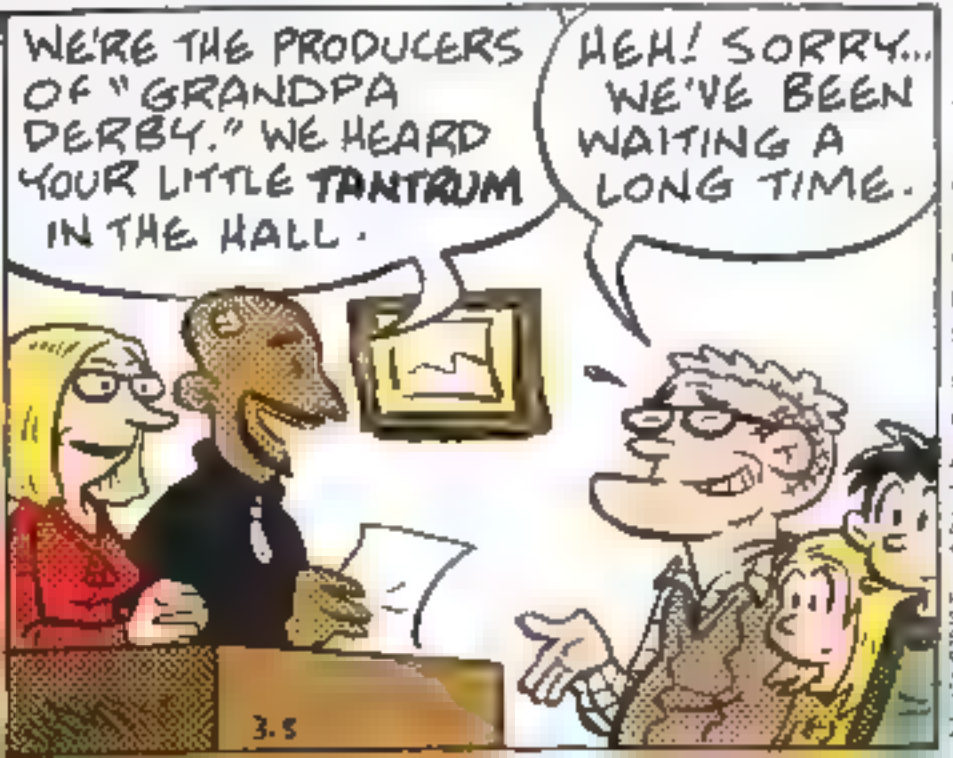

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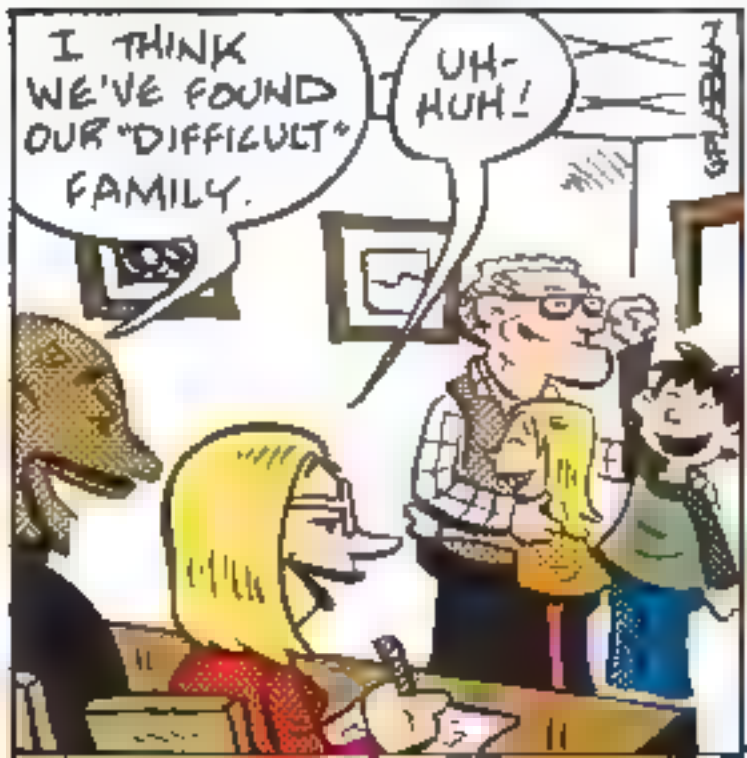
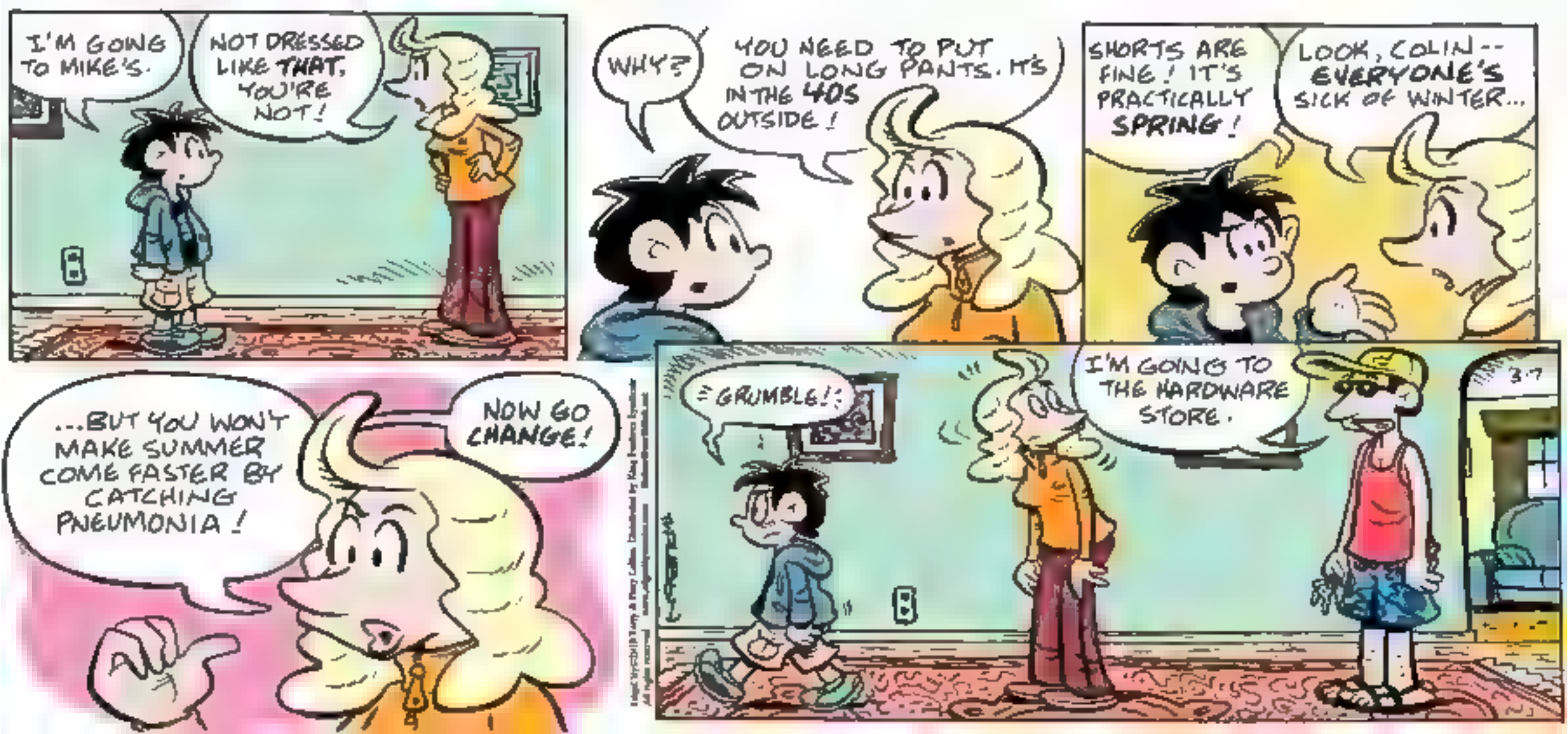
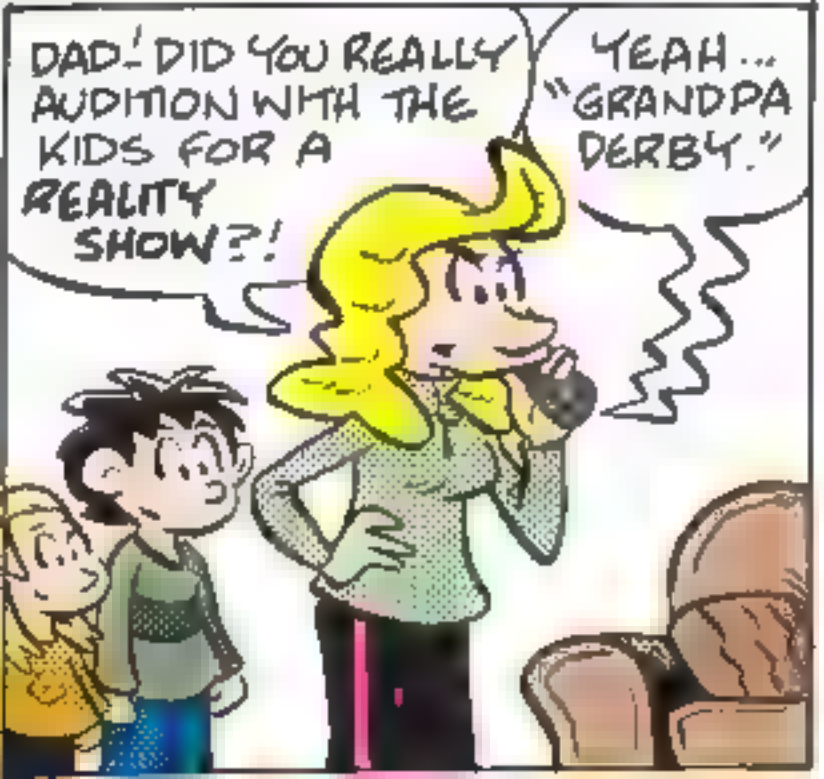
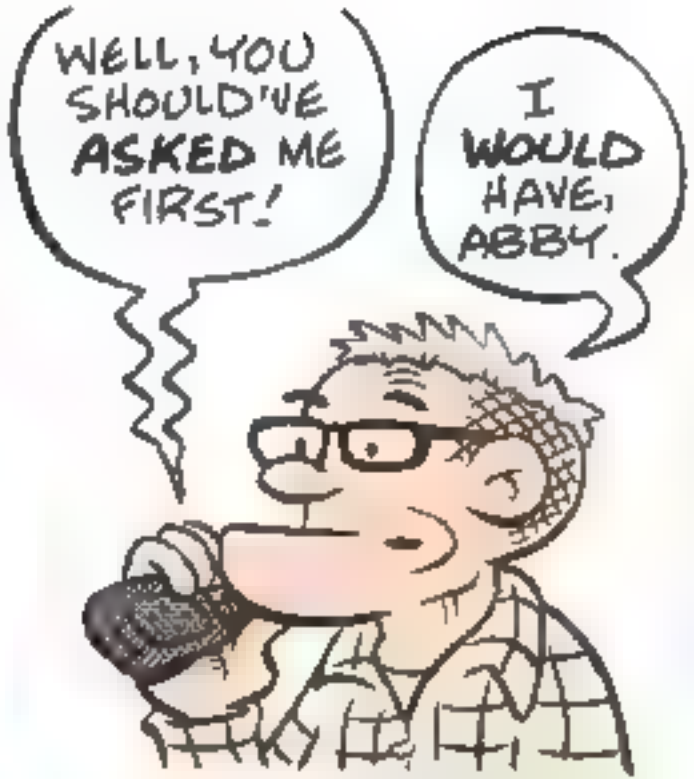


HI, YOU GUYS! WHAT'D YOU DO THIS AFTERNOON?
GRANDPA TOOK US TO AUDITION FOR A REALITY SHOW.
AUDITION FOR A REALITY SHOW! HA! WHAT'D YOU REALLY DO?
YOU AUDITIONED FOR A REALITY SHOW?!
THAT'S WHAT I JUST SAID.


I'M GOING TO MIKE'S.
NOT DRESSED LIKE THAT, YOU'RE NOT!
WHY?
YOU NEED TO PUT ON LONG PANTS. IT'S IN THE 40S OUTSIDE!
SHORTS ARE FINE! IT'S PRACTICALLY SPRING!
LOOK, COLIN -- EVERYONE'S SICK OF WINTER...
...BUT YOU WON'T MAKE SUMMER COME FASTER BY CATCHING PNEUMONIA!
NOW GO CHANGE!
GRUMBLE!
I'M GOING TO THE HARDWARE STORE.
3-7





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MY DAD TOOK THE KIDS TO AUDITION FOR A REALITY SHOW!
NO KIDDING!
HE DIDN'T ASK OUR PERMISSION, AND NOW THE KIDS ARE ALL EXCITED. WHAT IF THEY GET ON?
WELL, I THINK WE NEED TO FIND OUT A FEW THINGS.
LIKE, CAN WE GET ON, TOO?
THAT WASN'T THE FIRST THING ON MY LIST!
3-9

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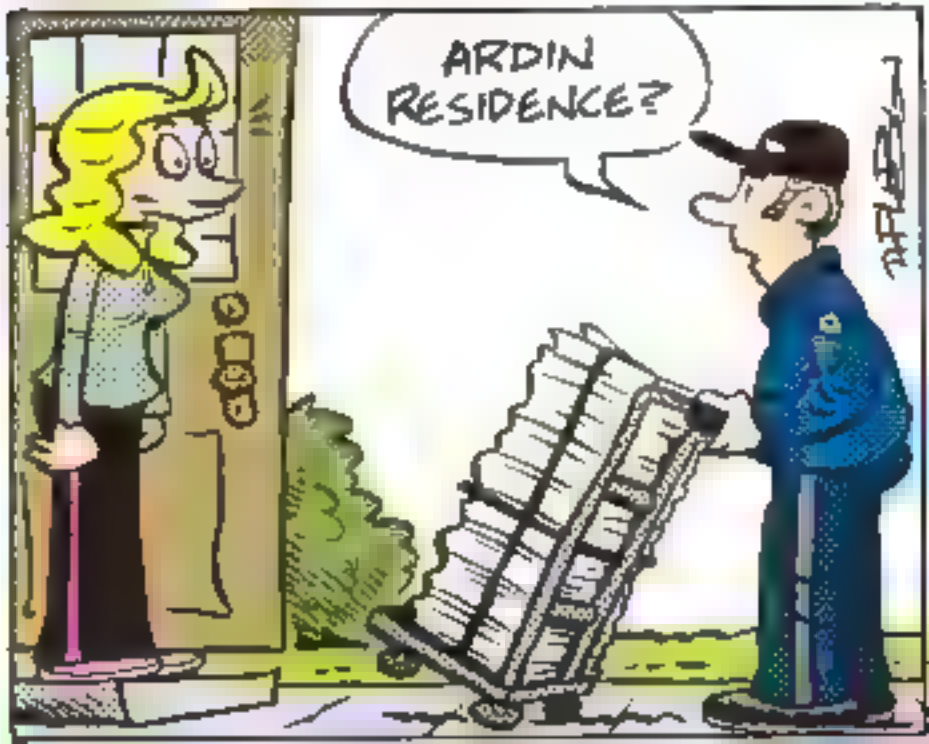

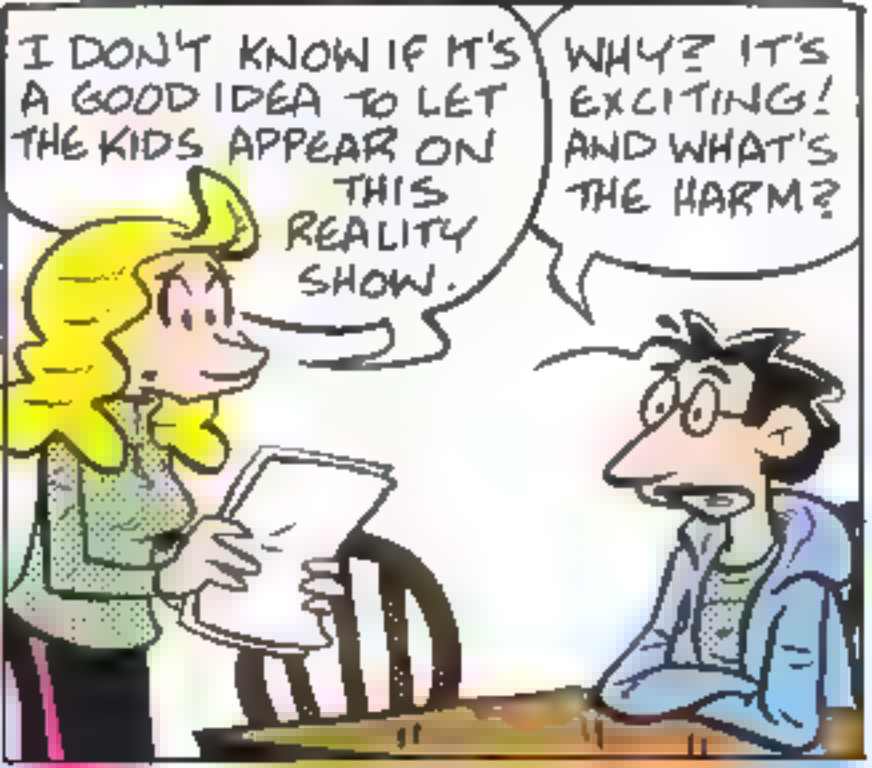

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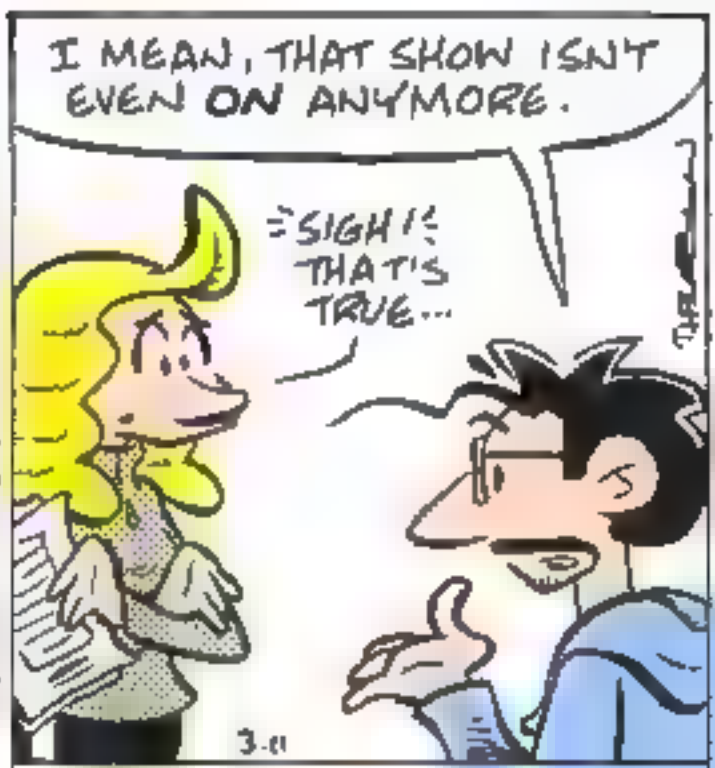
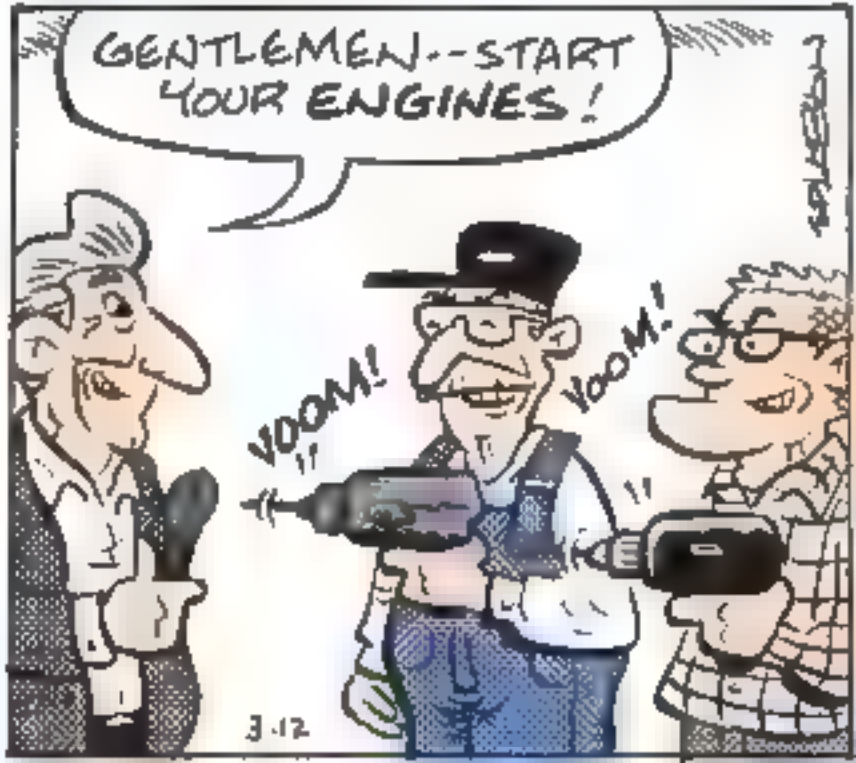
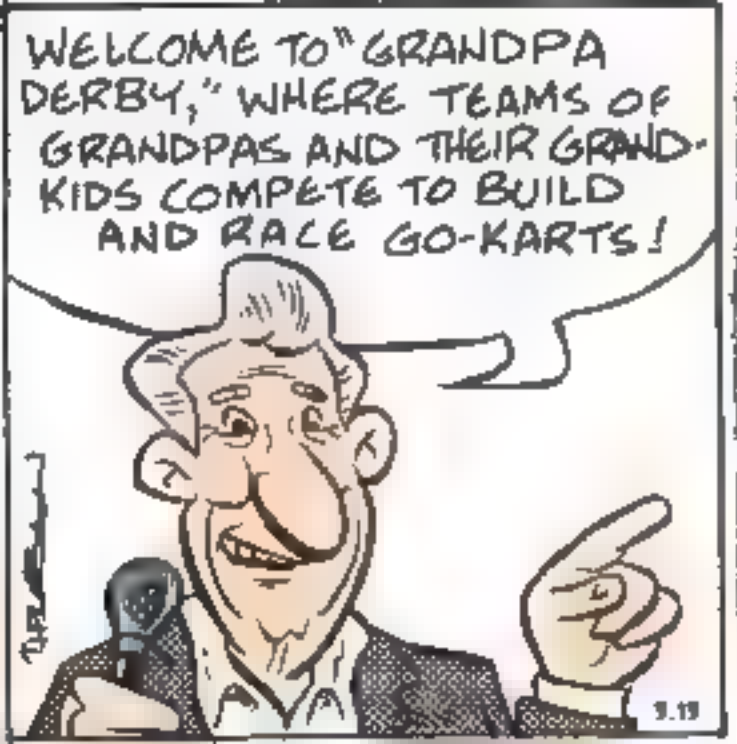


HELLO AND WELCOME TO THIS WEEK'S "GRANDPA DERBY"!

WE FOLLOW GRANDPAS AND THEIR GRANDKIDS AS THEY WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD THEIR OWN GO-KARTS AND RACE THEM TO WIN $50,000!


GENTLEMEN--START YOUR ENGINES!
VOOM!
VOOM!
3-12



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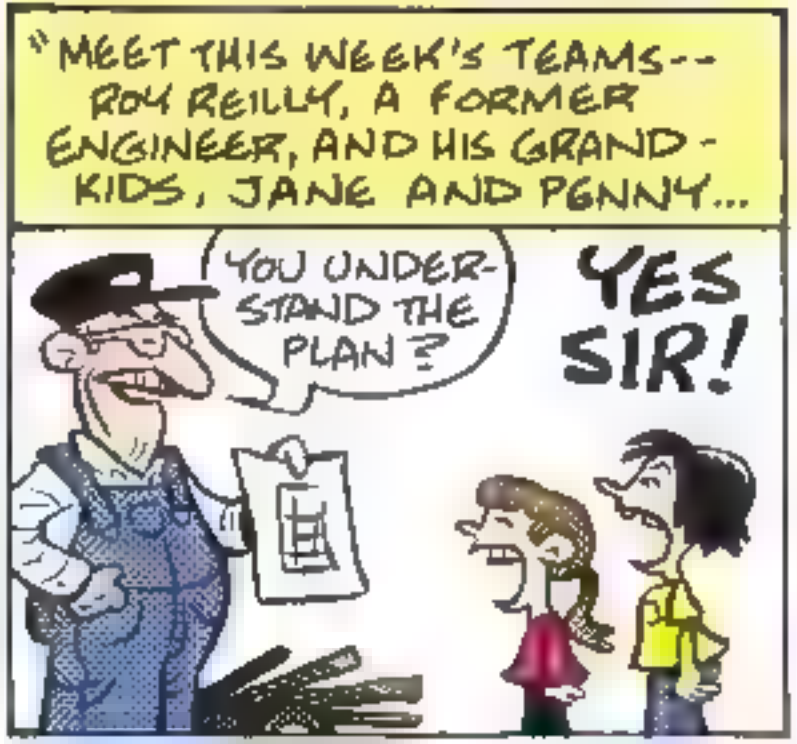
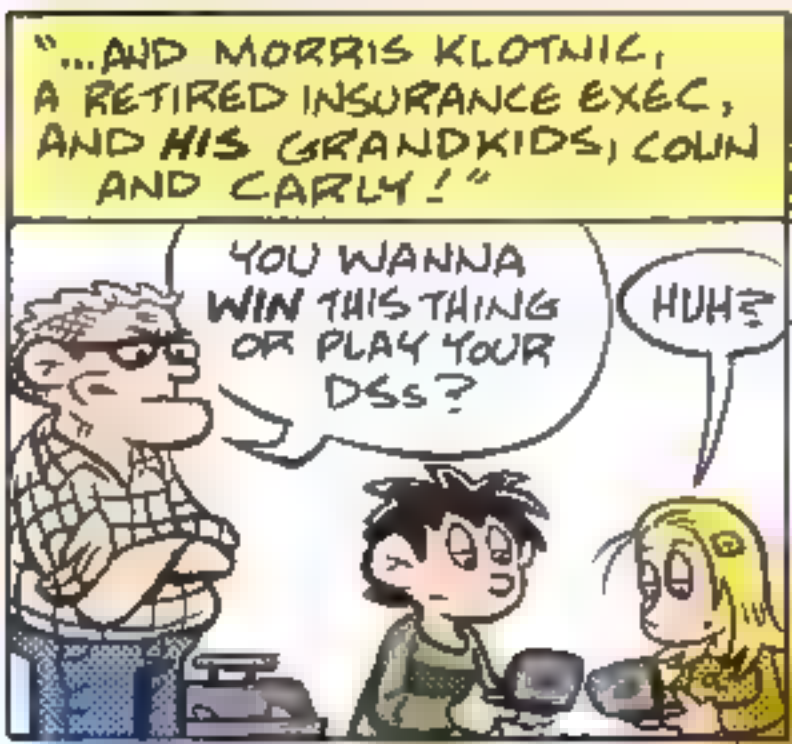
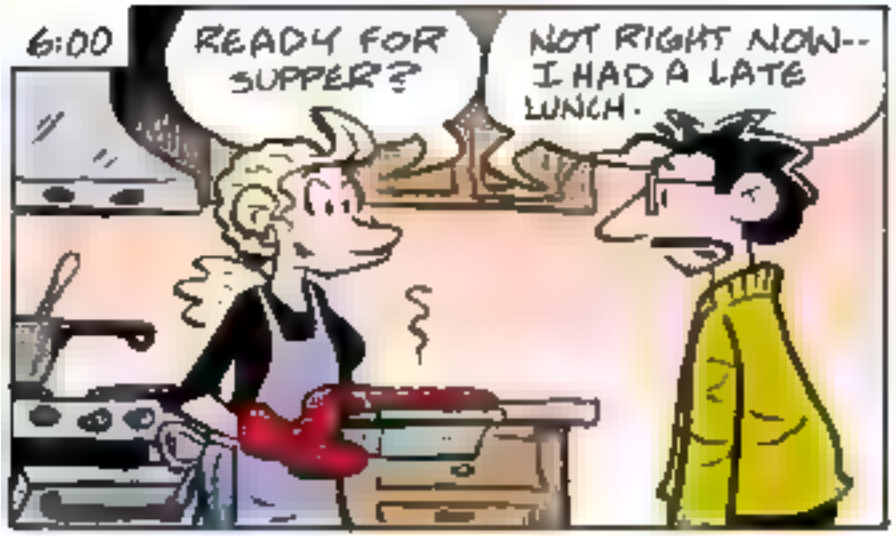
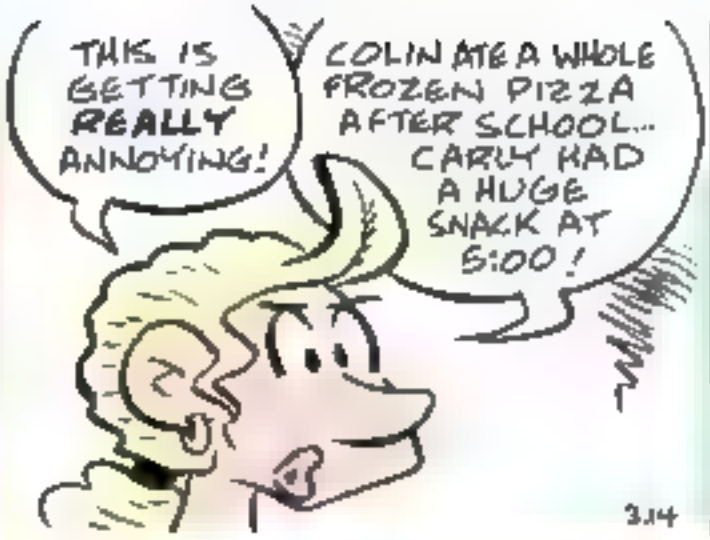
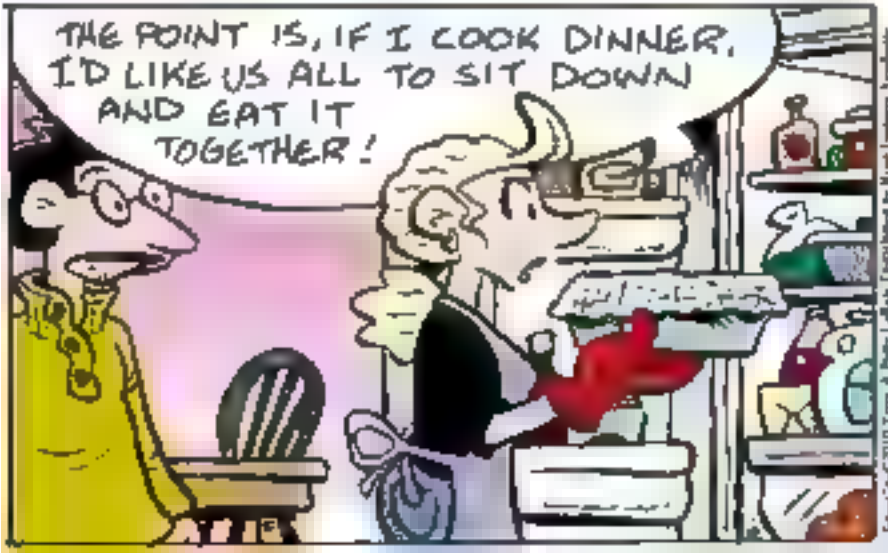





6:00
READY FOR SUPPER?
NOT RIGHT NOW-- I HAD A LATE LUNCH.


THIS IS GETTING REALLY ANNOYING!
COLIN ATE A WHOLE FROZEN PIZZA AFTER SCHOOL... CARLY HAD A HUGE SNACK AT 5:00!
3.14

NOBODY WANTS TO EAT AT SUPPERTIME!
PUT IT IN THE FRIDGE! IT WONT GO TO WASTE.


THE POINT IS, IF I COOK DINNER, I'D LIKE US ALL TO SIT DOWN AND EAT IT TOGETHER!

9:00

MORRIS AND THE KIDS ARE APPEARING ON A REALITY SHOW--

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT BUILDING A GO-KART WOULD BE EASY.

Morris Klotnic
Contestant

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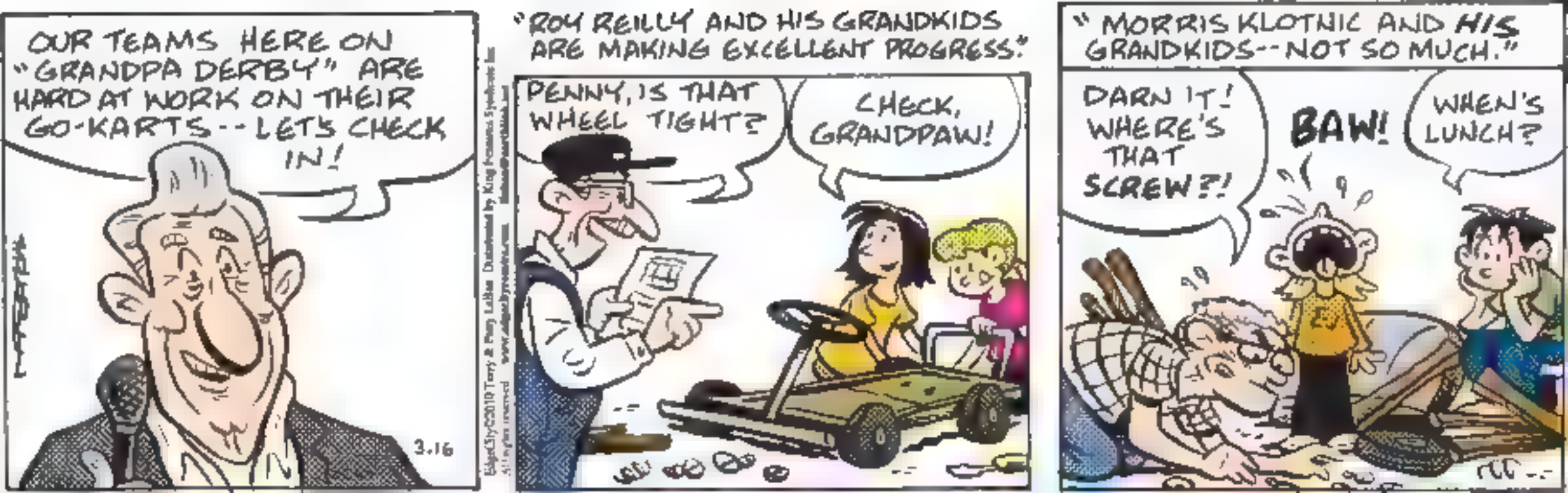
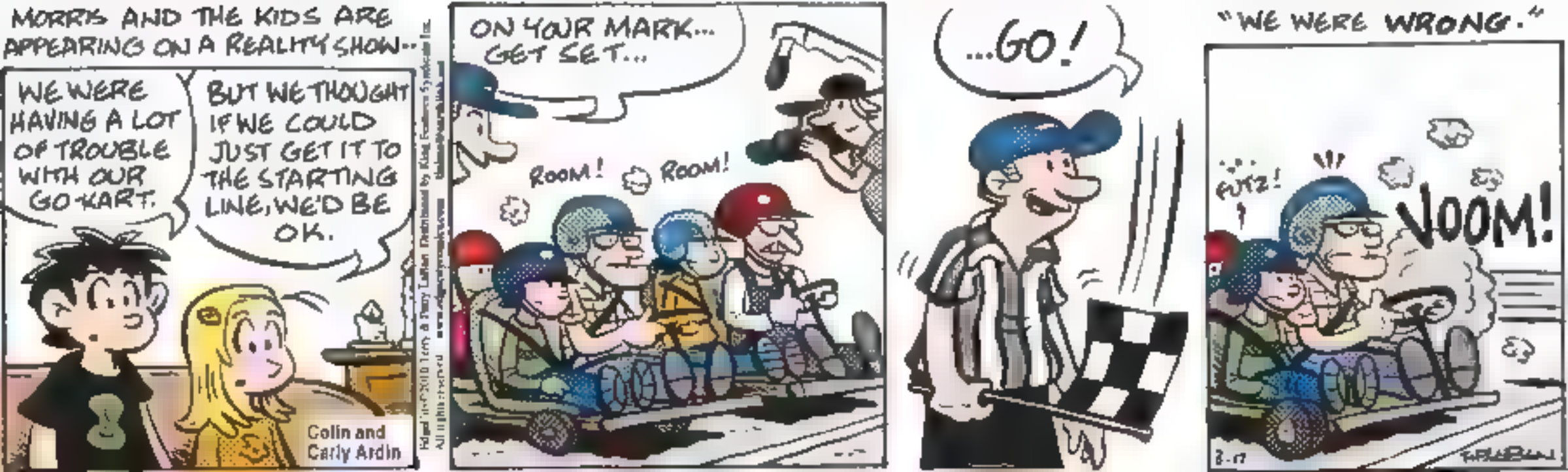
I MEAN, WE BUILT THEM ALL THE TIME WHEN WE WERE **KIDS**. YOU JUST NEED SOME WOOD, BUGGY WHEELS AND A LAWN MOWER ENGINE.

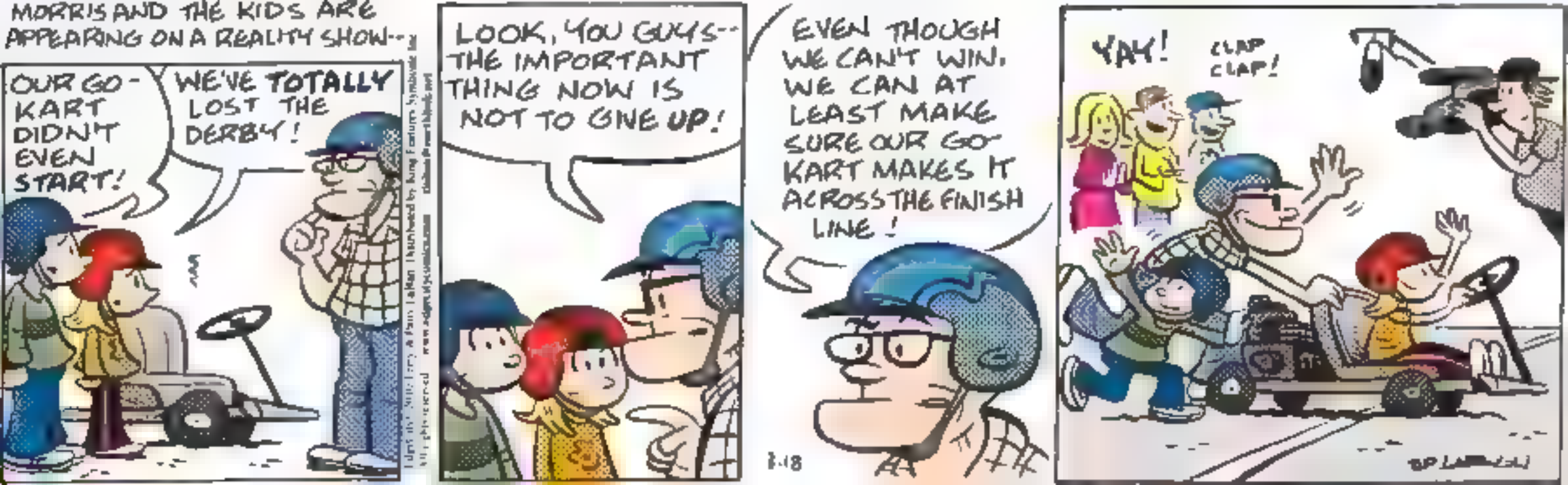
2-15

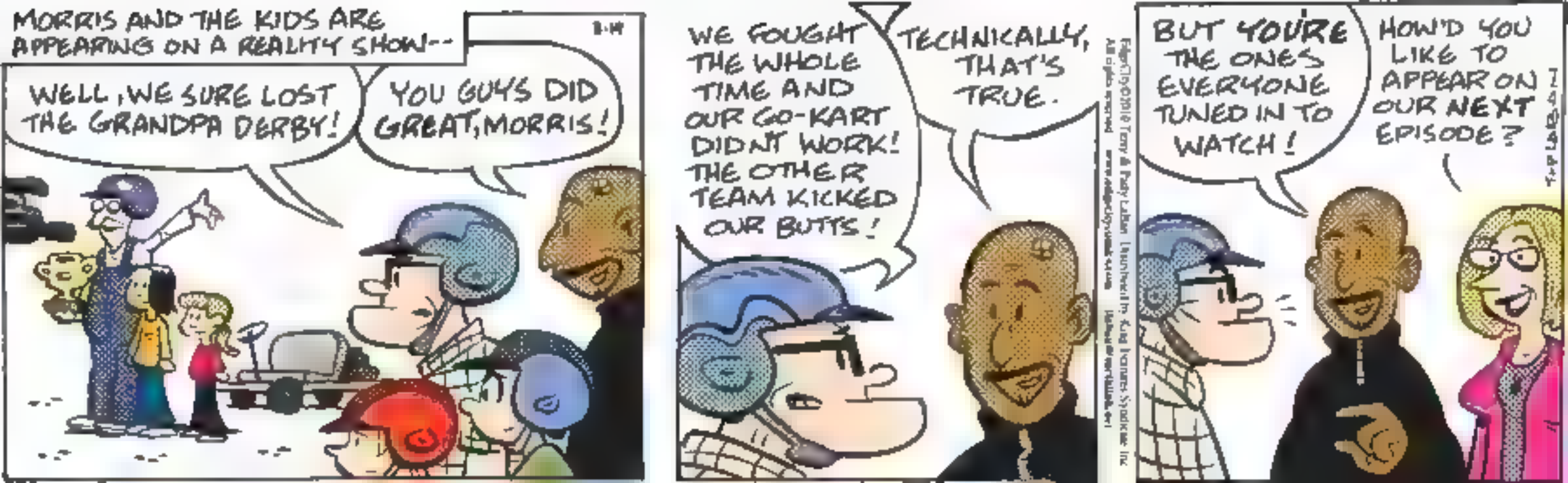
SO, GRANDPA-- HOW DO WE PUT ALL THIS STUFF TOGETHER?

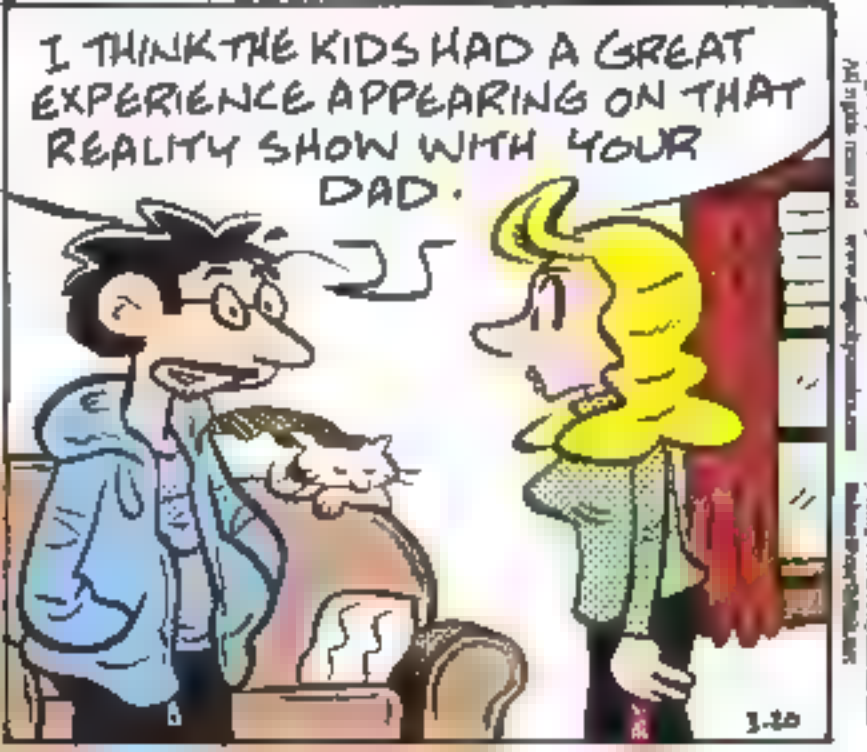
I'M NOT SURE-- MY FRIEND **JOEY** ALWAYS DID IT.


OUR TEAMS HERE ON "GRANDPA DERBY" ARE HARD AT WORK ON THEIR GO-KARTS--LET'S CHECK IN!
3.16
"ROY REILLY AND HIS GRANDKIDS ARE MAKING EXCELLENT PROGRESS."
PENNY, IS THAT WHEEL TIGHT?
CHECK, GRANDPAW!
"MORRIS KLOTNIC AND HIS GRANDKIDS--NOT SO MUCH."
DARN IT! WHERE'S THAT SCREW?!
BAW!
WHEN'S LUNCH?


MORRIS AND THE KIDS ARE APPEARING ON A REALITY SHOW...
WE WERE HAVING A LOT OF TROUBLE WITH OUR GO-KART.
BUT WE THOUGHT IF WE COULD JUST GET IT TO THE STARTING LINE, WE'D BE OK.
Colin and Carly Ardin
ON YOUR MARK... GET SET...
ROOM!
ROOM!
...GO!
"WE WERE WRONG."
FUTZ!
VOOM!


MORRIS AND THE KIDS ARE APPEARING ON A REALITY SHOW--
OUR GO-KART DIDN'T EVEN START!
WE'VE TOTALLY LOST THE DERBY!
LOOK, YOU GUYS-- THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS NOT TO GIVE UP!
EVEN THOUGH WE CAN'T WIN, WE CAN AT LEAST MAKE SURE OUR GO-KART MAKES IT ACROSS THE FINISH LINE!
YAY!
CLAP CLAP!


MORRIS AND THE KIDS ARE APPEARING ON A REALITY SHOW--
WELL, WE SURE LOST THE GRANDPA DERBY!
YOU GUYS DID GREAT, MORRIS!
WE FOUGHT THE WHOLE TIME AND OUR GO-KART DIDN'T WORK! THE OTHER TEAM KICKED OUR BUTTS!
TECHNICALLY, THAT'S TRUE.
BUT YOU'RE THE ONES EVERYONE TUNED IN TO WATCH!
HOW'D YOU LIKE TO APPEAR ON OUR NEXT EPISODE?



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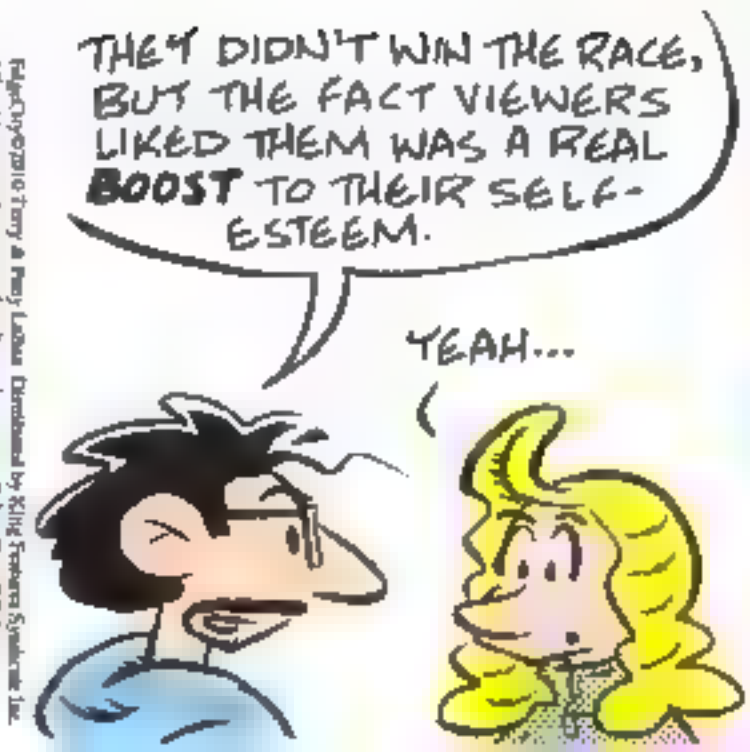
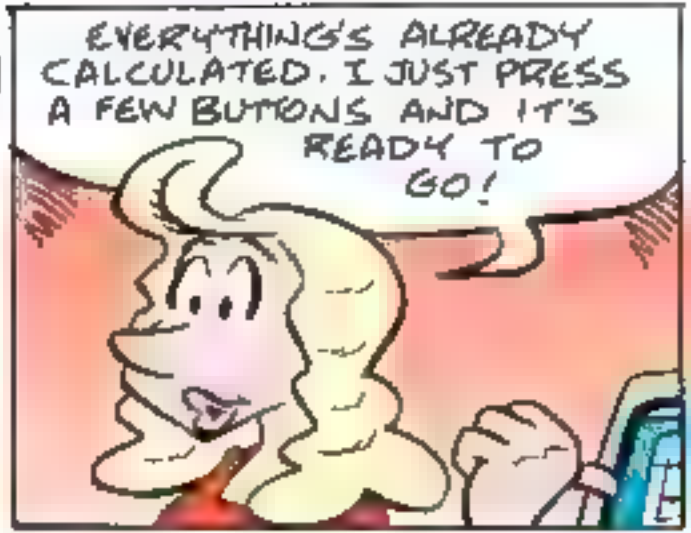


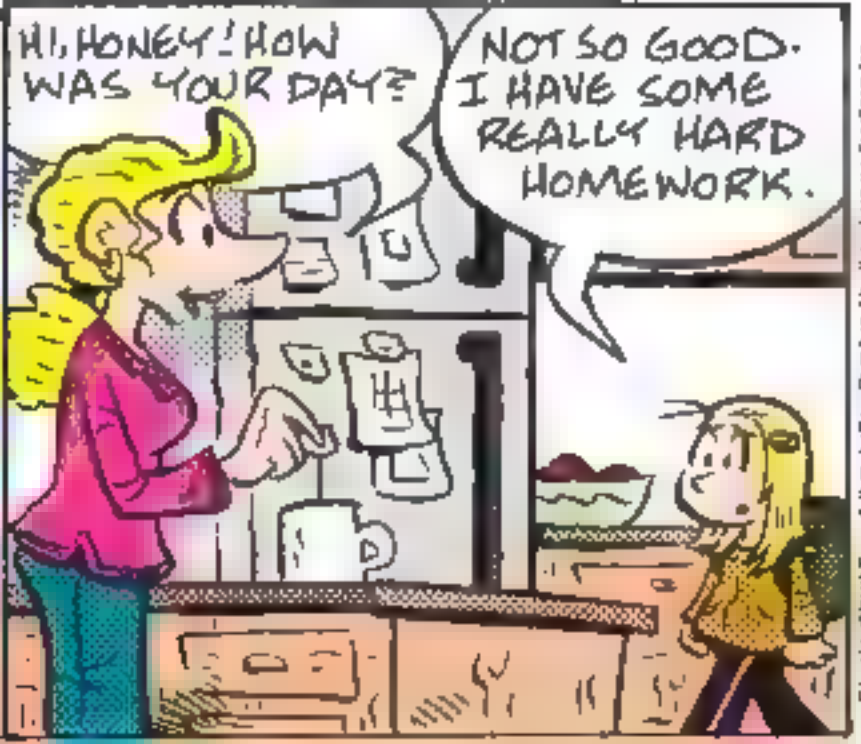
HAVE YOU STARTED GETTING YOUR TAX STUFF TOGETHER FOR THE ACCOUNTANT YET?
I'M ALL DONE!

ALREADY?
WELL, ALL YEAR I'VE BEEN ENTERING MY INFO IN A SPREADSHEET.


EVERYTHING'S ALREADY CALCULATED. I JUST PRESS A FEW BUTTONS AND IT'S READY TO GO!

HOW 'BOUT YOU?
HEH! I'M NOT THAT FAR ALONG. BUT I'M MAKING PROGRESS.

DARN!



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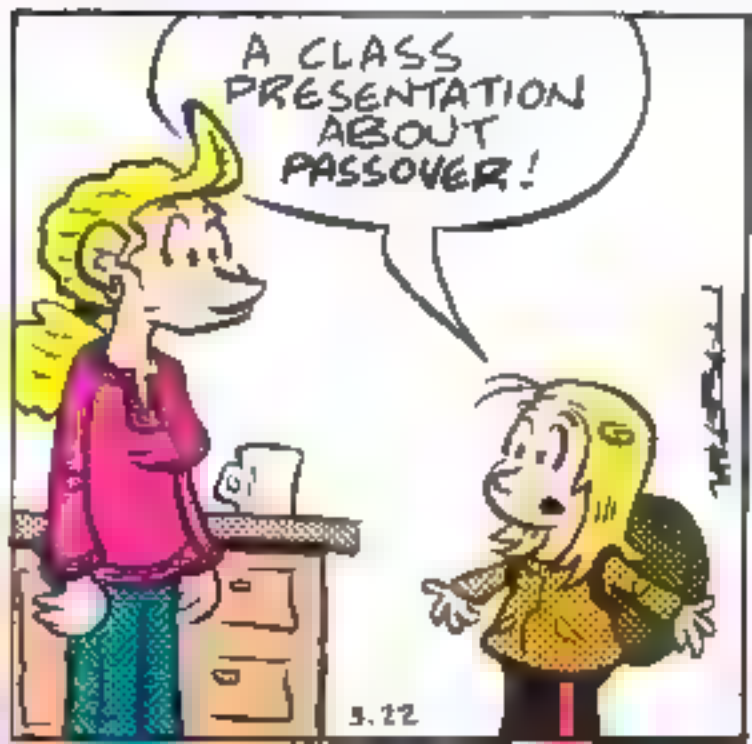
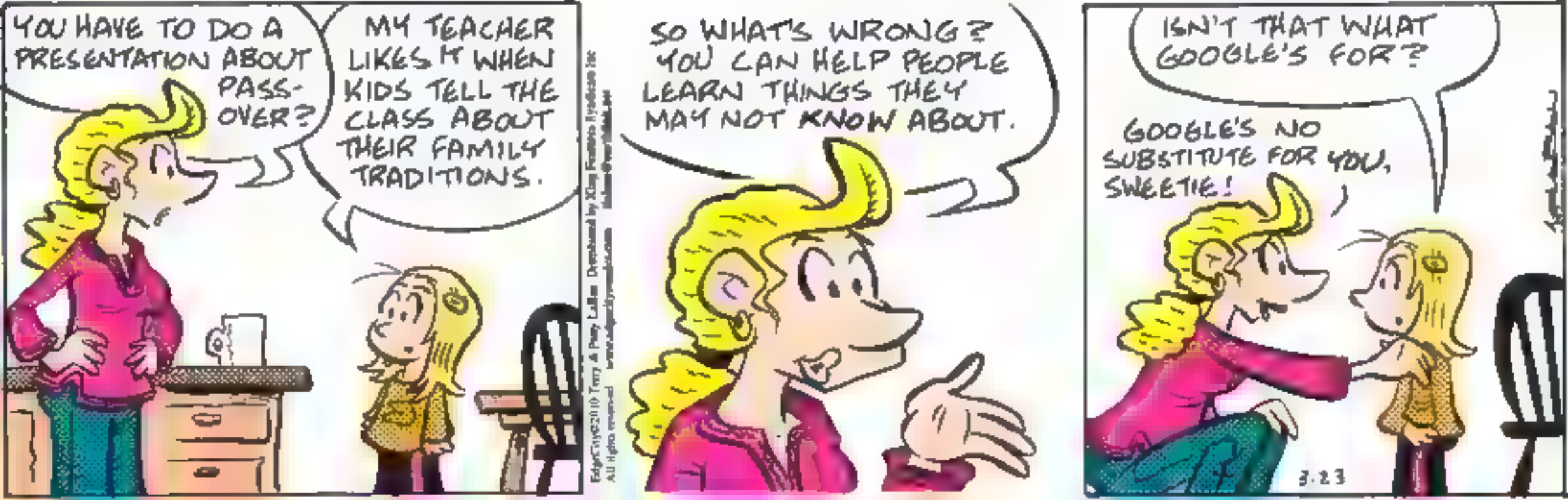
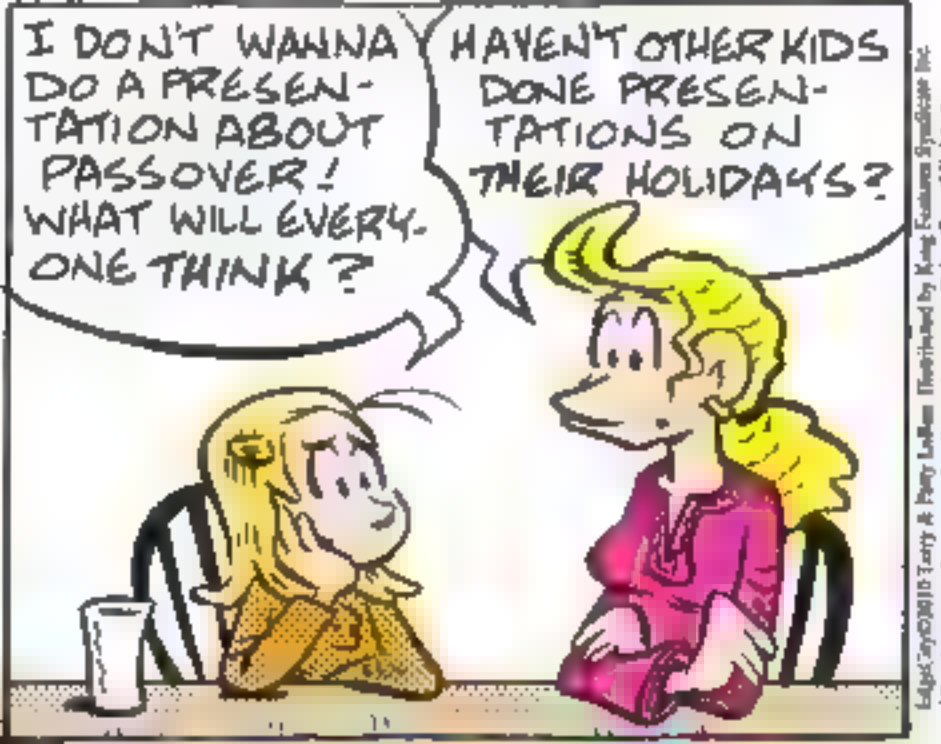



YOU HAVE TO DO A PRESENTATION ABOUT PASS-OVER?
MY TEACHER LIKES IT WHEN KIDS TELL THE CLASS ABOUT THEIR FAMILY TRADITIONS.
SO WHAT'S WRONG? YOU CAN HELP PEOPLE LEARN THINGS THEY MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT.
ISN'T THAT WHAT GOOGLE'S FOR?
GOOGLE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU, SWEETIE!
3.23

I'D REALLY RATHER NOT DO A PRESENTATION ABOUT PASSOVER.
HOW COME, HONEY?
I'M THE ONLY JEWISH KID IN MY CLASS. WHAT IF NO ONE UNDER-STANDS IT?
WHY WOULDN'T THEY?
'CUZ SOMETIMES I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP THINGS SIMPLE, OK?
3-24



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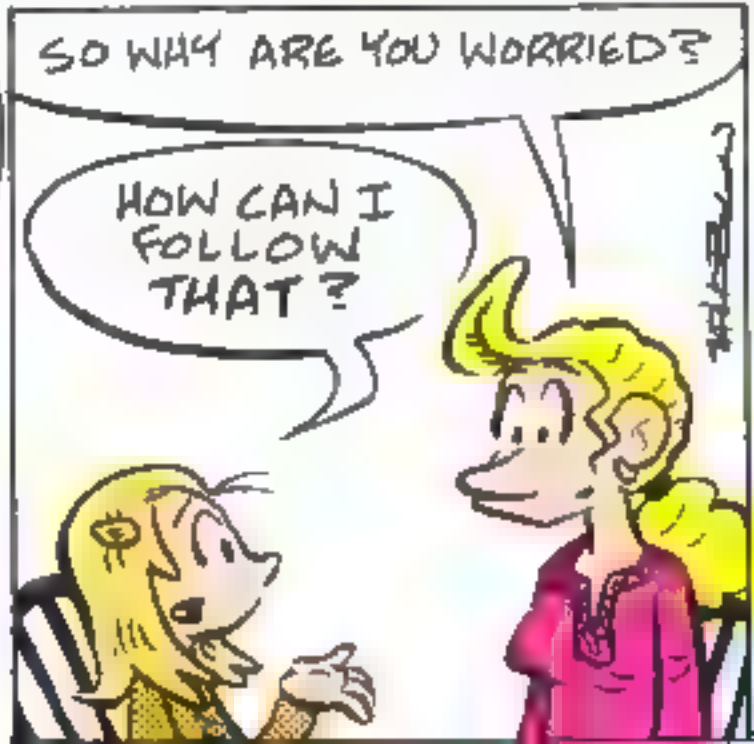

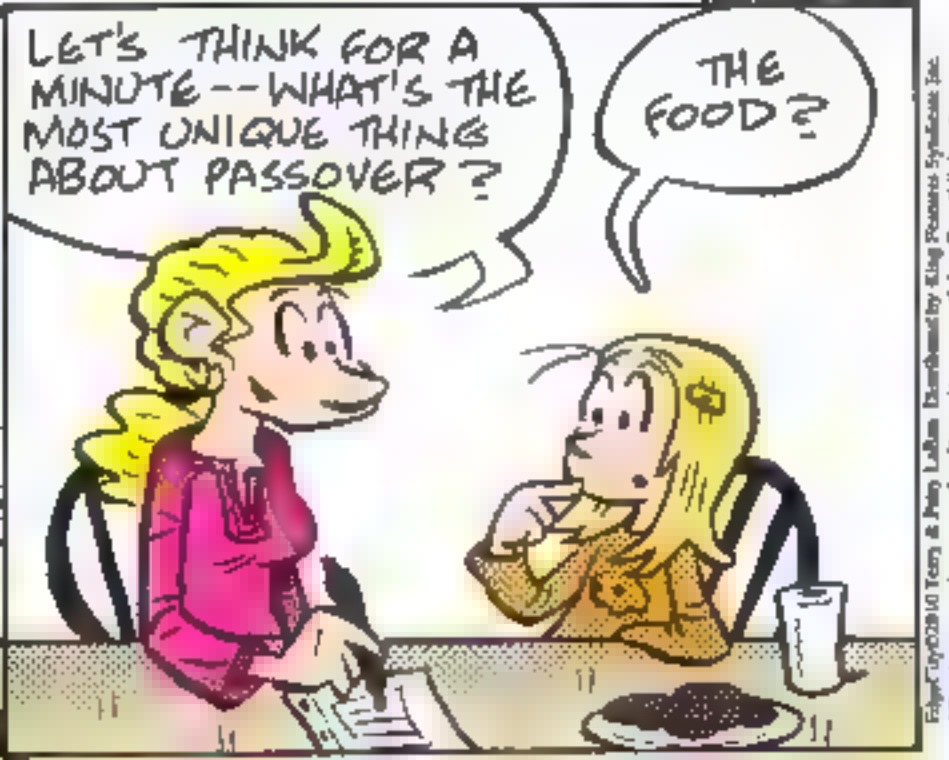

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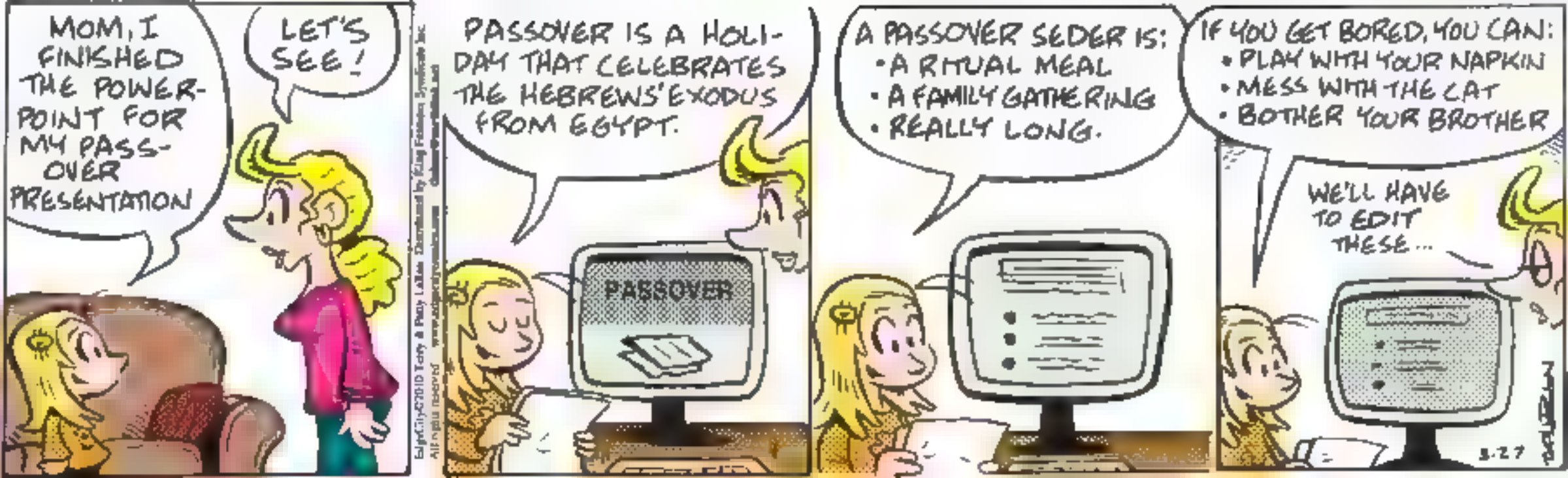
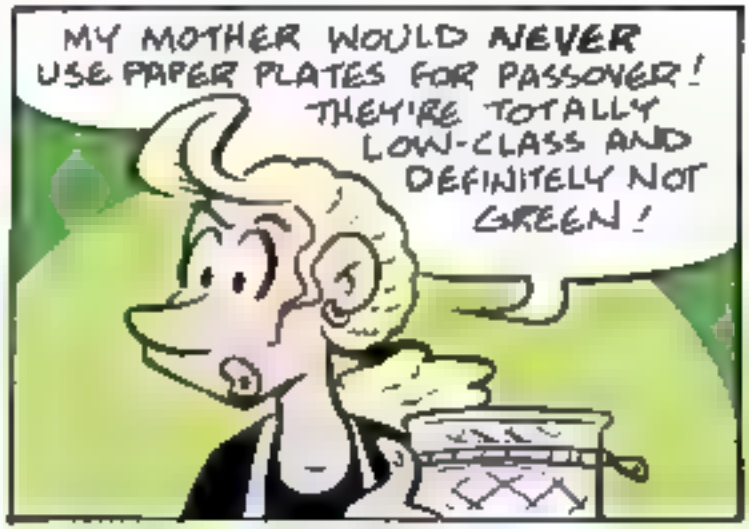
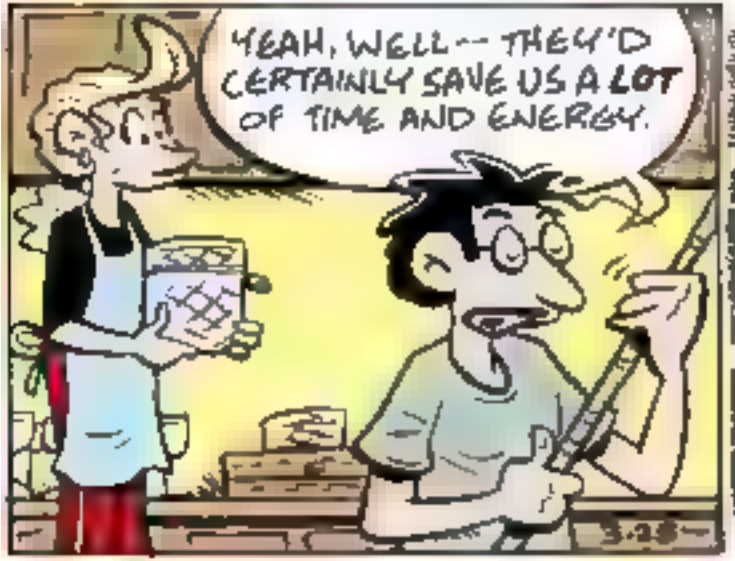
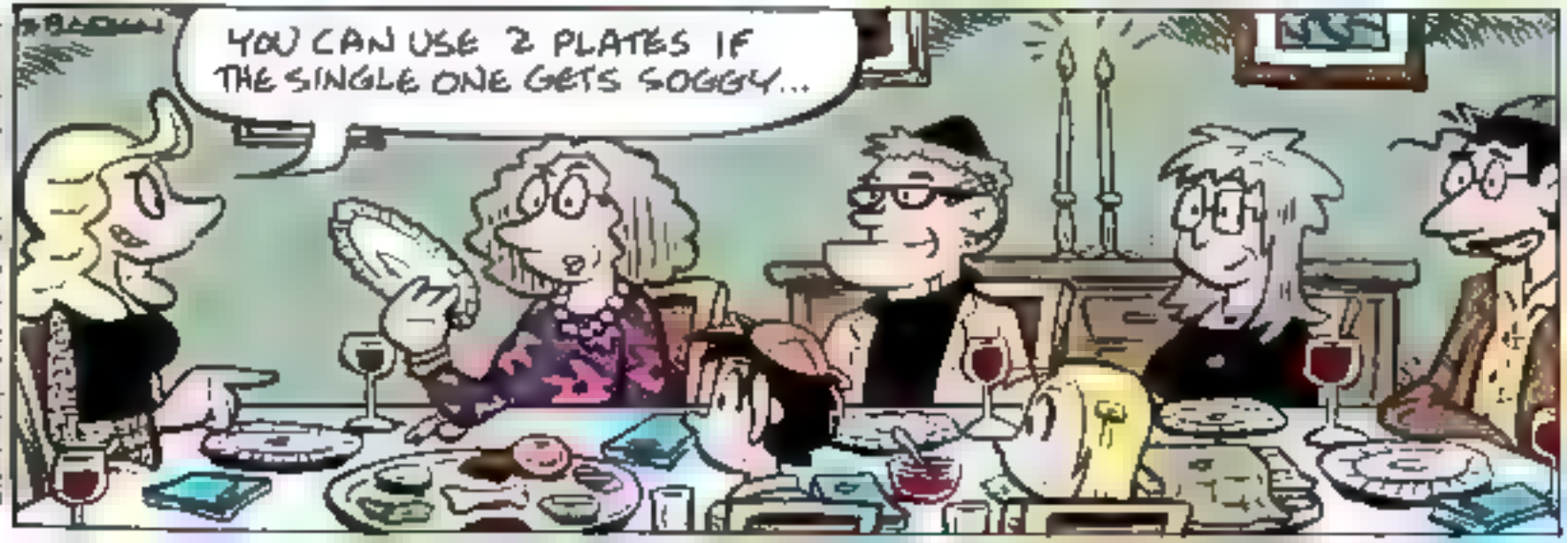

MOM, I FINISHED THE POWER-POINT FOR MY PASS-OVER PRESENTATION
LET'S SEE!
PASSOVER IS A HOLI-DAY THAT CELEBRATES THE HEBREWS' EXODUS FROM EGYPT.
PASSOVER
A PASSOVER SEDER IS:
• A RITUAL MEAL
• A FAMILY GATHERING
• REALLY LONG.
IF YOU GET BORED, YOU CAN:
• PLAY WITH YOUR NAPKIN
• MESS WITH THE CAT
• BOTHER YOUR BROTHER
WE'LL HAVE TO EDIT THESE...
3-27

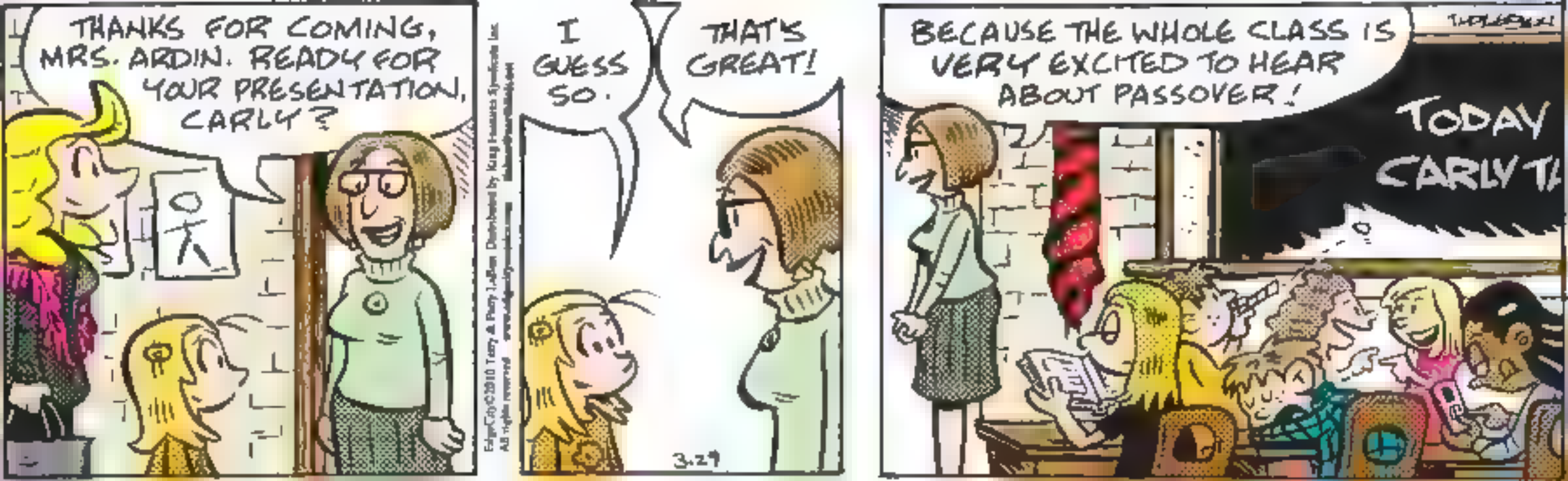
WOULD YOU HELP ME TAKE DOWN THE CHINA? WE NEED TO SET THE TABLE FOR THE PASSOVER SEDER.
CHINA'S SUCH A PAIN.

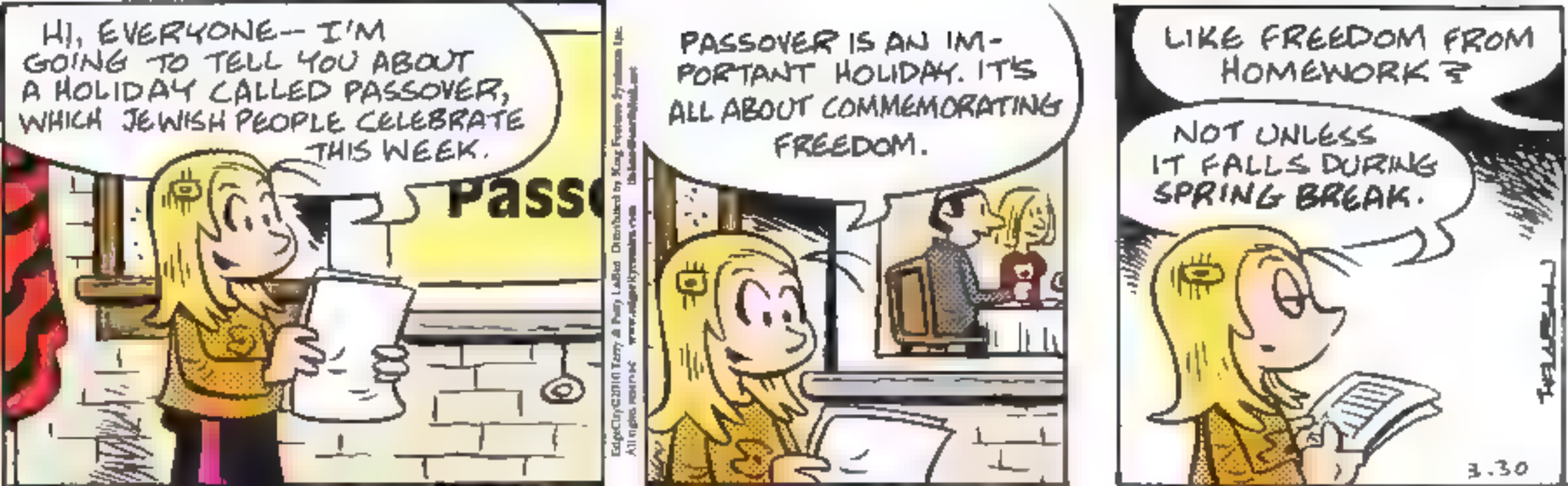
WE'LL SPEND HOURS UNPACKING IT, WASHING AND DRYING IT BY HAND, AND THEN REPACKING IT. WHY NOT JUST USE PAPER?
PAPER?


MY MOTHER WOULD NEVER USE PAPER PLATES FOR PASSOVER! THEY'RE TOTALLY LOW-CLASS AND DEFINITELY NOT GREEN!

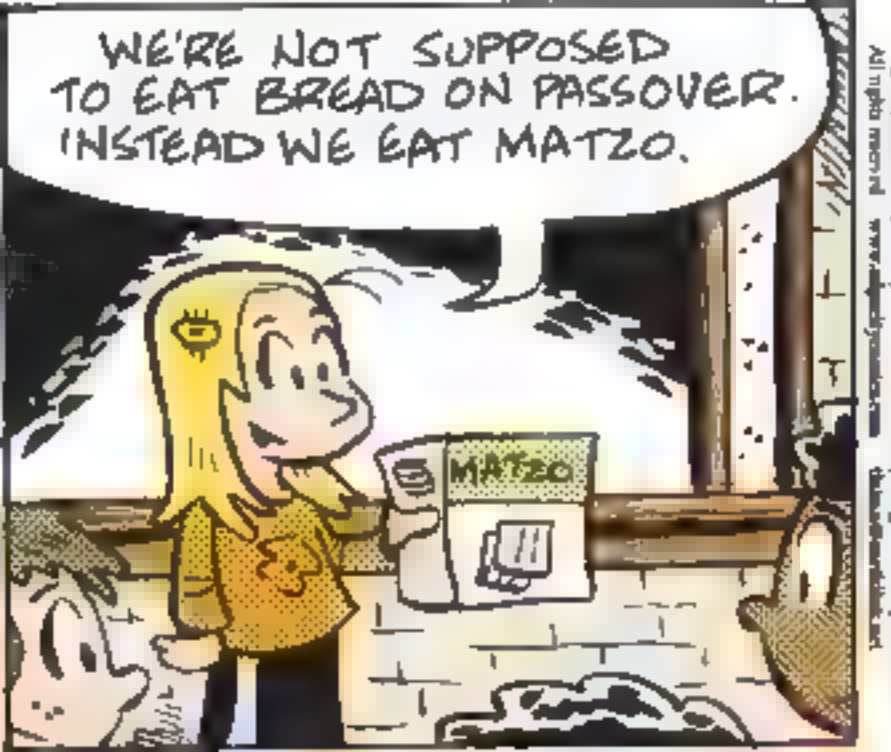

YEAH, WELL -- THEY'D CERTAINLY SAVE US A LOT OF TIME AND ENERGY.


YOU CAN USE 2 PLATES IF THE SINGLE ONE GETS SOGGY...


THANKS FOR COMING, MRS. ARDIN. READY FOR YOUR PRESENTATION, CARLY?
I GUESS SO.
THAT'S GREAT!
3.29
BECAUSE THE WHOLE CLASS IS VERY EXCITED TO HEAR ABOUT PASSOVER!
TODAY
CARLY TA


HI, EVERYONE-- I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT A HOLIDAY CALLED PASSOVER, WHICH JEWISH PEOPLE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK.
Passo
PASSOVER IS AN IMPORTANT HOLIDAY. IT'S ALL ABOUT COMMEMORATING FREEDOM.
LIKE FREEDOM FROM HOMEWORK?
NOT UNLESS IT FALLS DURING SPRING BREAK.
3.30

WE EAT A LOT OF SPECIAL FOODS ON PASSOVER.
ONE IS GEFILTE FISH, WHICH IS A MIXTURE OF GROUND PIKE AND CARP.
GEFILTE FISH
3.31
HERE--WHY DOESN'T EVERYONE TRY SOME?
MOM! NO!!
NO!
ZIP!
PHEW!
KOF!



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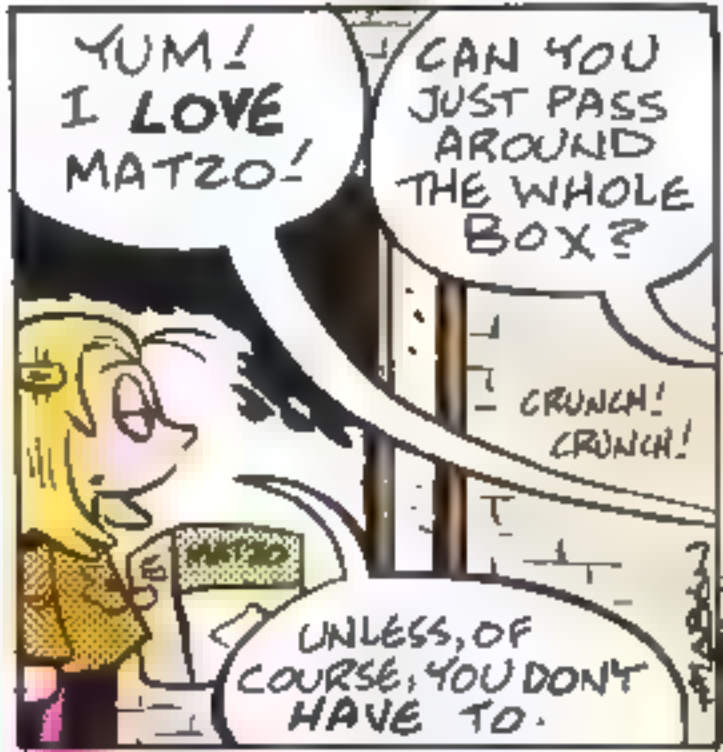
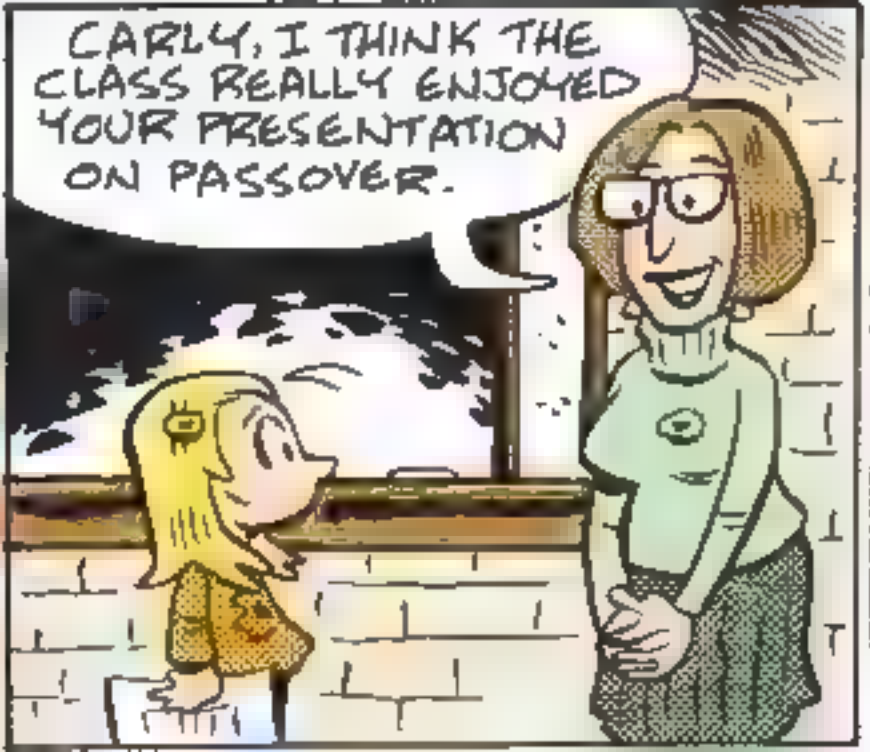
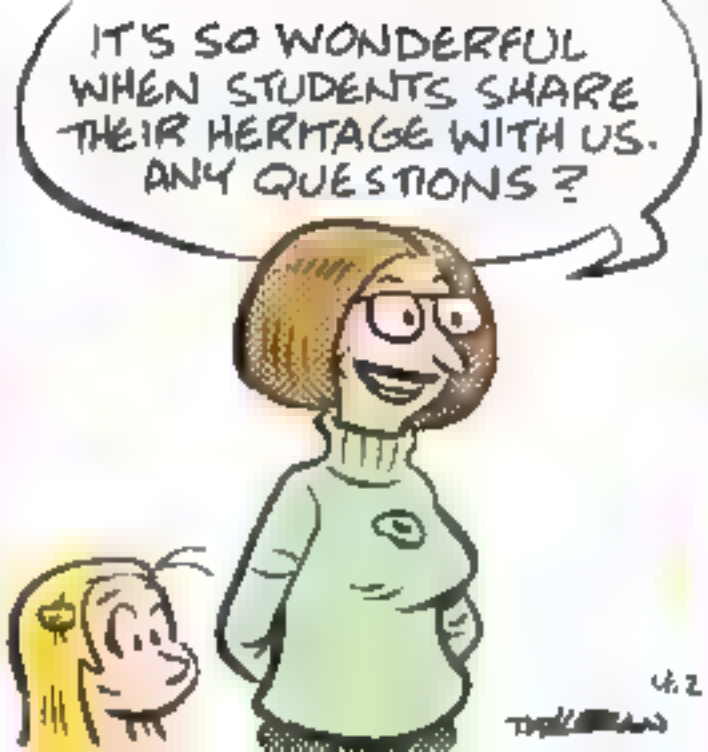
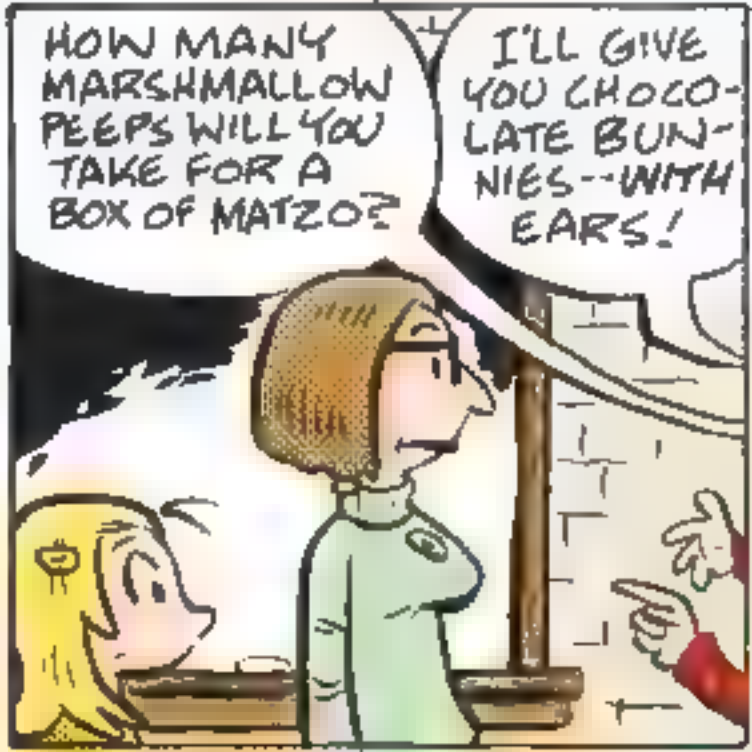
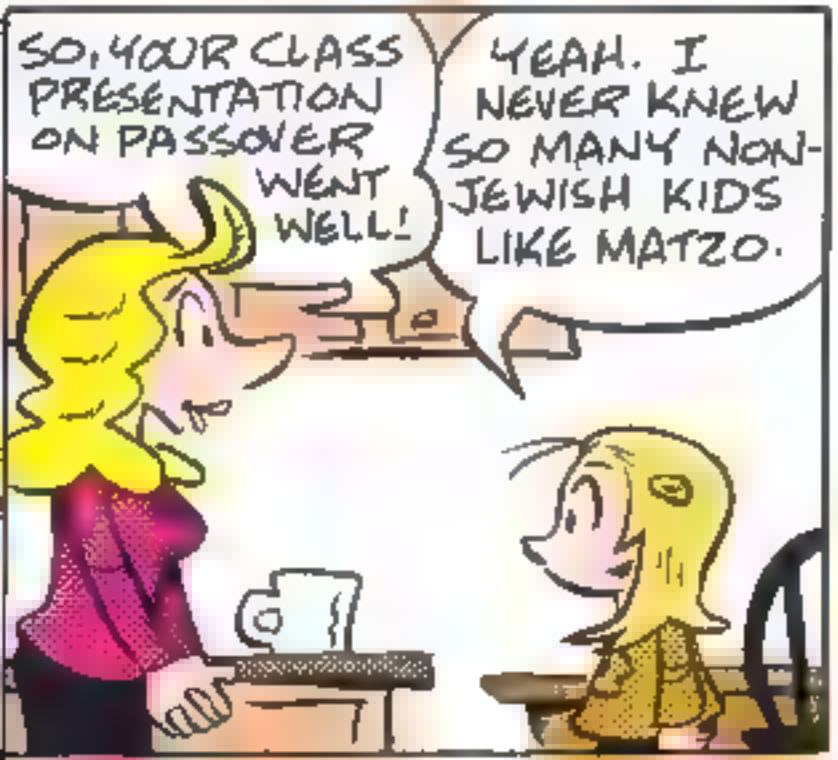
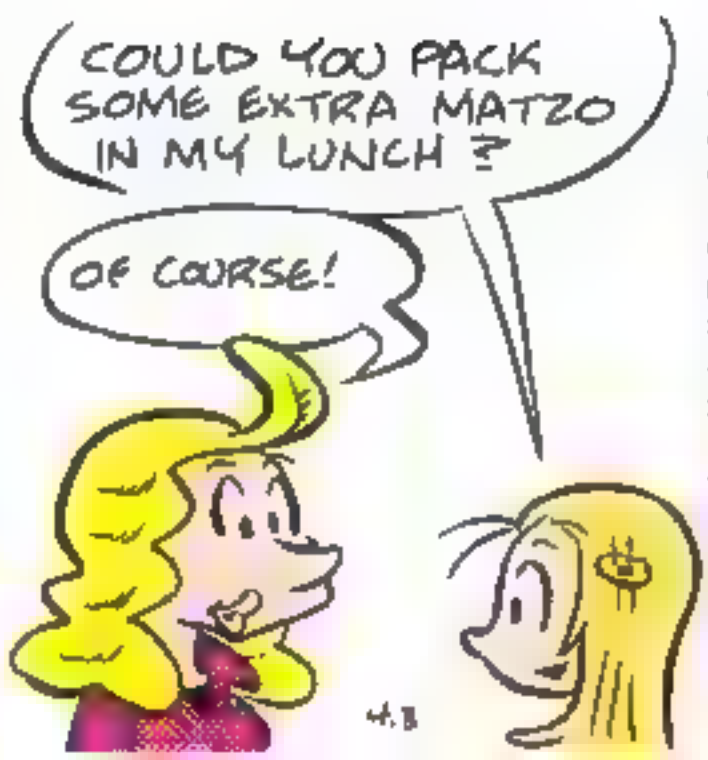



CARLY, I THINK THE CLASS REALLY ENJOYED YOUR PRESENTATION ON PASSOVER.


IT'S SO WONDERFUL WHEN STUDENTS SHARE THEIR HERITAGE WITH US. ANY QUESTIONS?


HOW MANY MARSHMALLOW PEEPS WILL YOU TAKE FOR A BOX OF MATZO?
I'LL GIVE YOU CHOCOLATE BUNNIES--WITH EARS!





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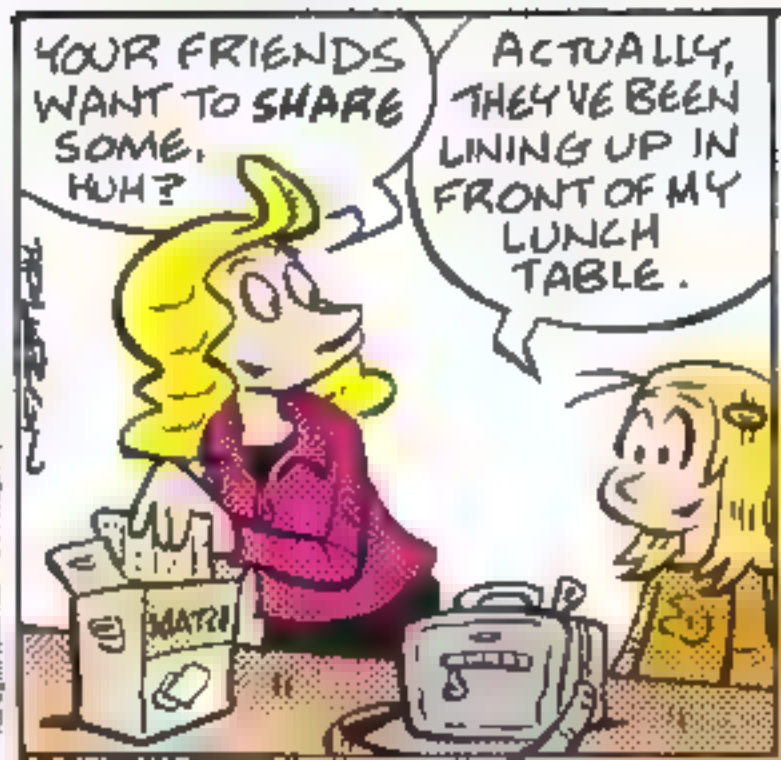


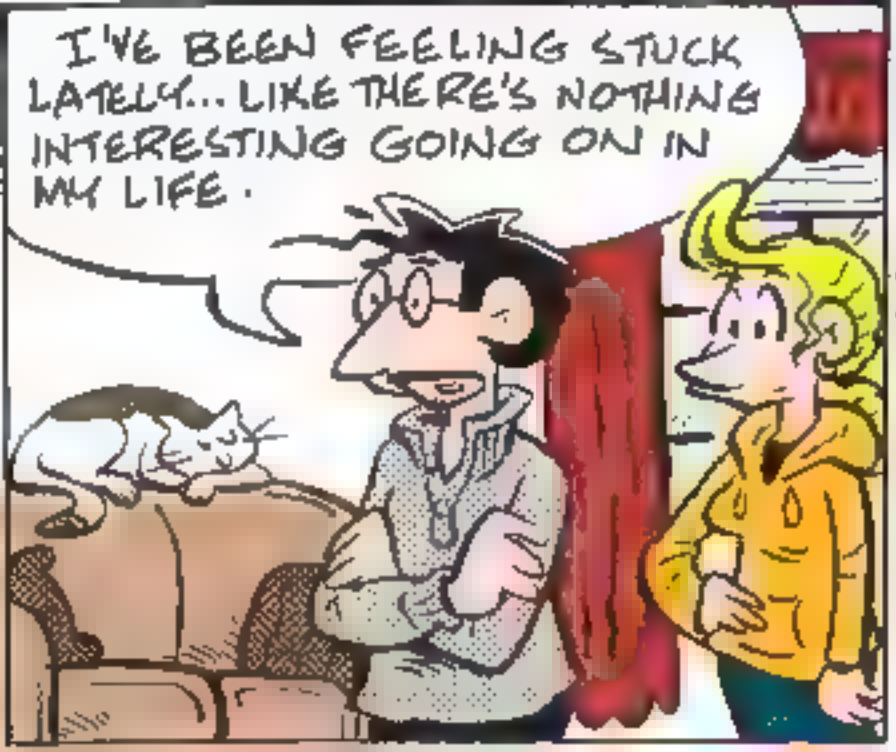
SO--HOW DID YOU DO WITH THE COUPLE'S HOMEWORK I GAVE YOU LAST WEEK?
WE DIDN'T GET TO IT, DR. ARDIN.
WE WERE BUSY EVERY NIGHT.

WE HAD TO GO TO THE GYM AND TAKE THE KIDS TO THEIR ACTIVITIES...
...MEET FRIENDS FOR FANTASY FOOTBALL AND GIRLS' NIGHT OUT.

ARE YOU STILL COMMITTED TO SAVING YOUR MARRIAGE?
IT'S OUR TOP PRIORITY!
WE'LL DO ANYTHING!

THEN LET'S FIND TIME TO DO YOUR HOMEWORK. WHAT ABOUT THE HALF HOUR BEFORE YOU GO TO BED?

THAT'S WHEN I CHECK MY EMAIL.
AND I WATCH RERUNS OF "FRIENDS."



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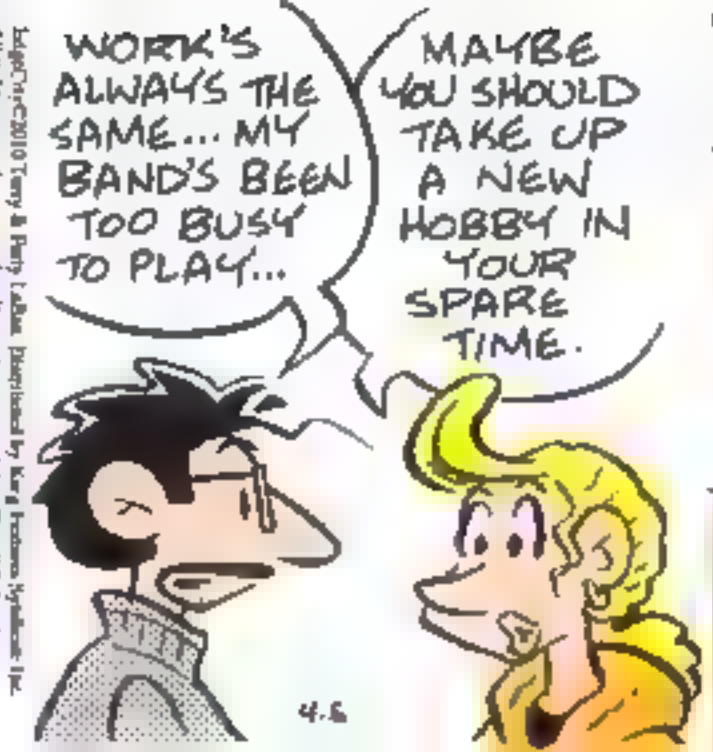

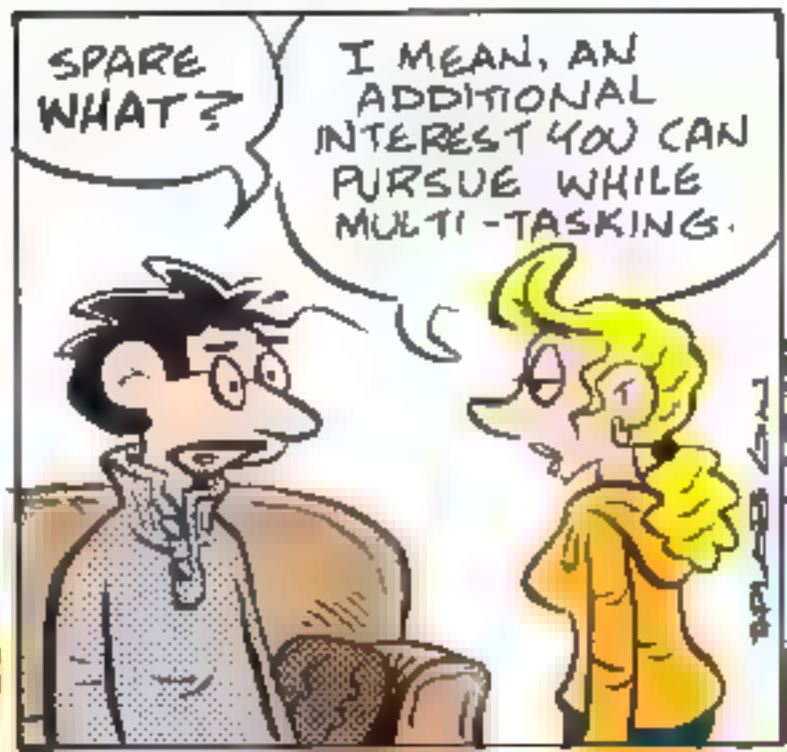

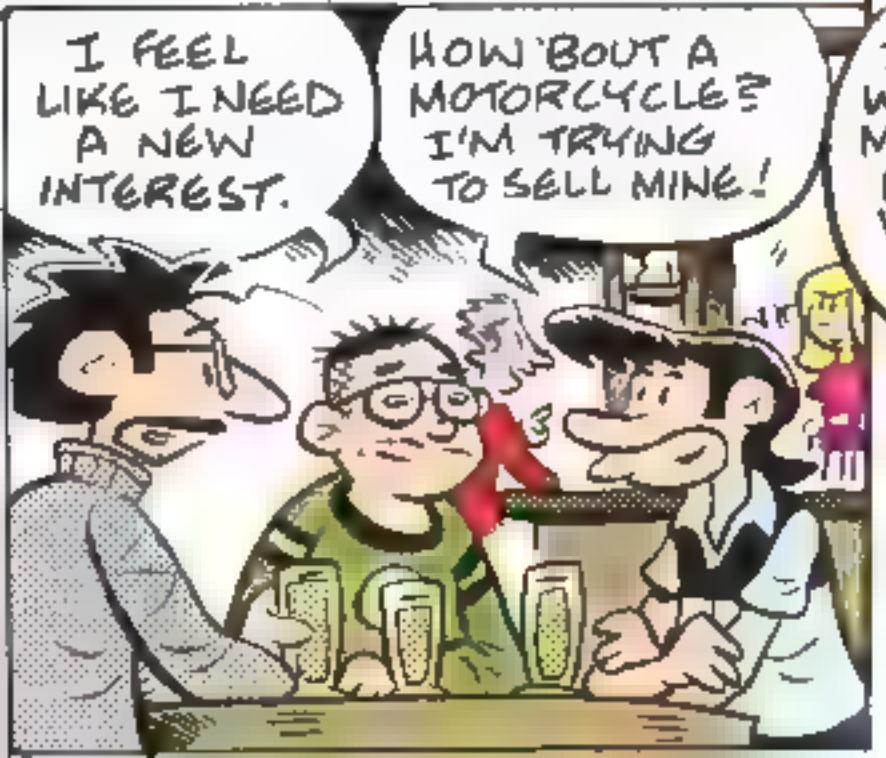

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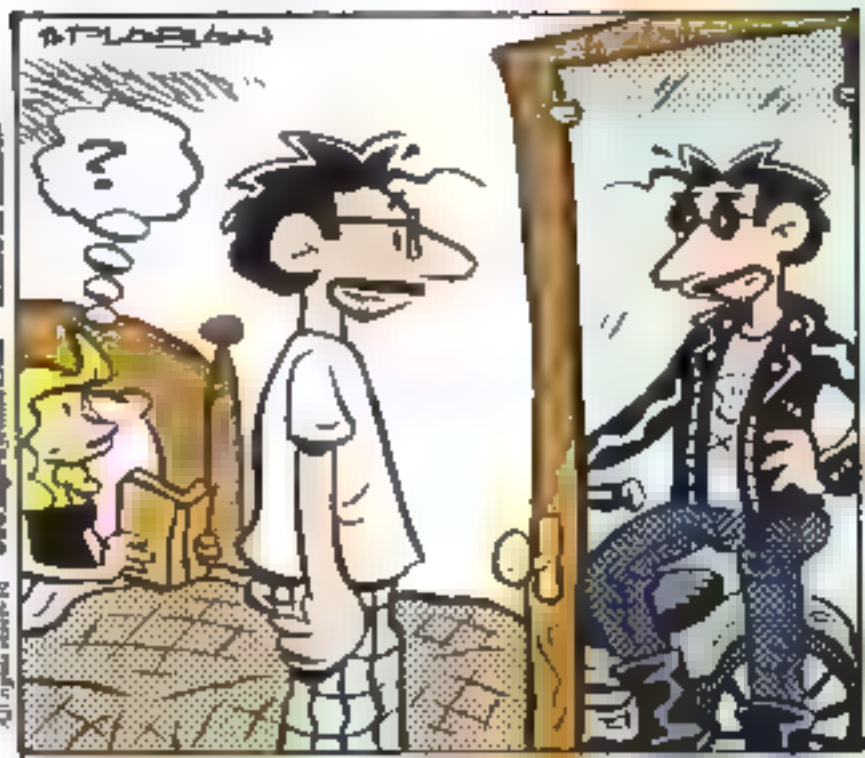
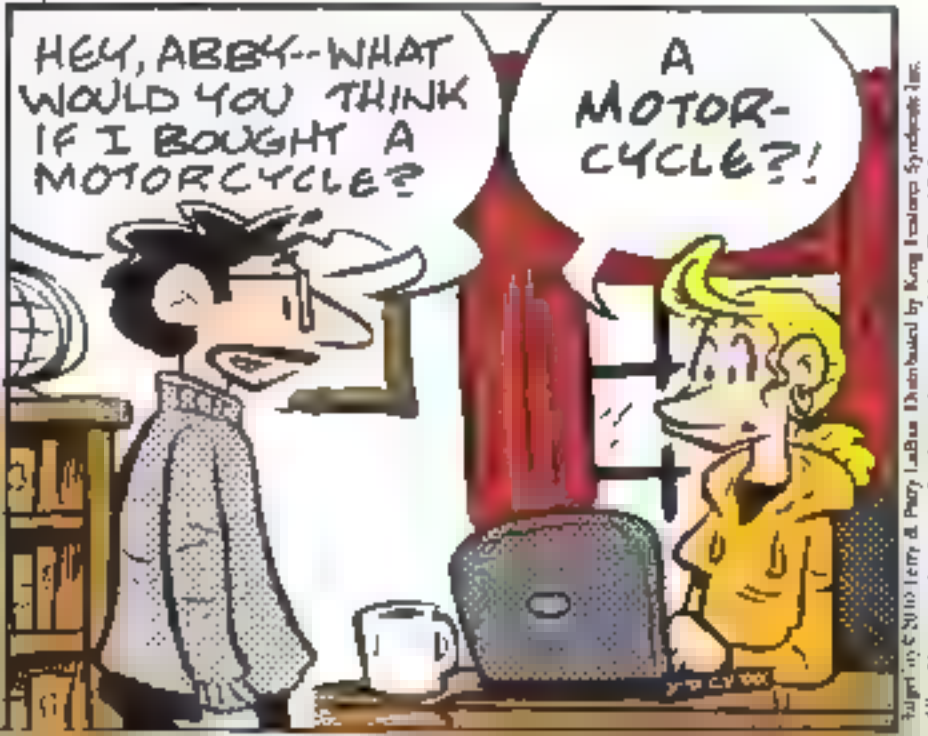
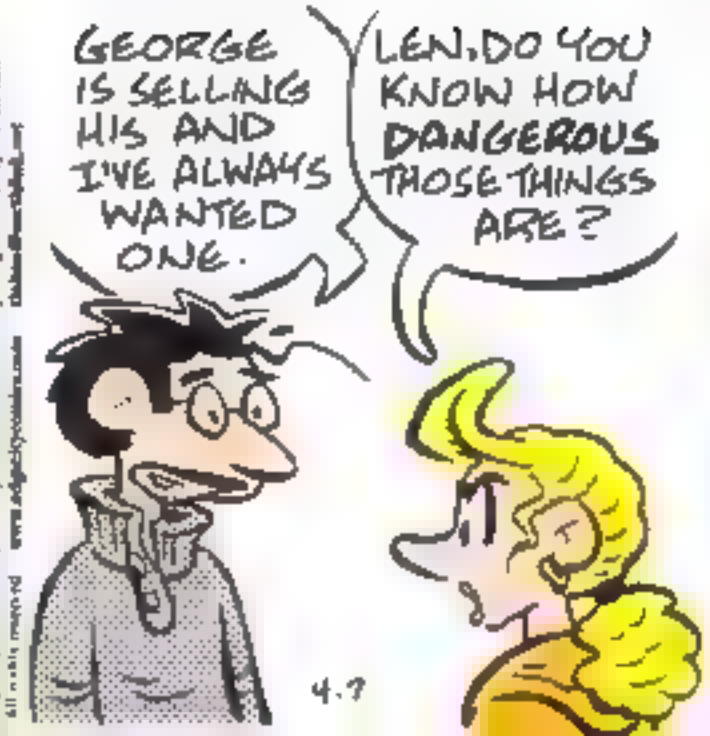
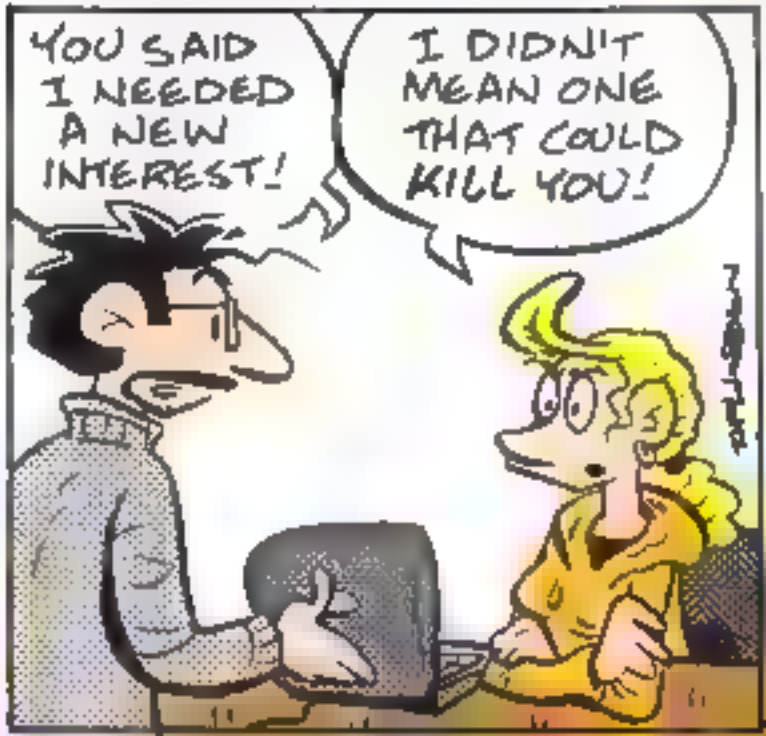
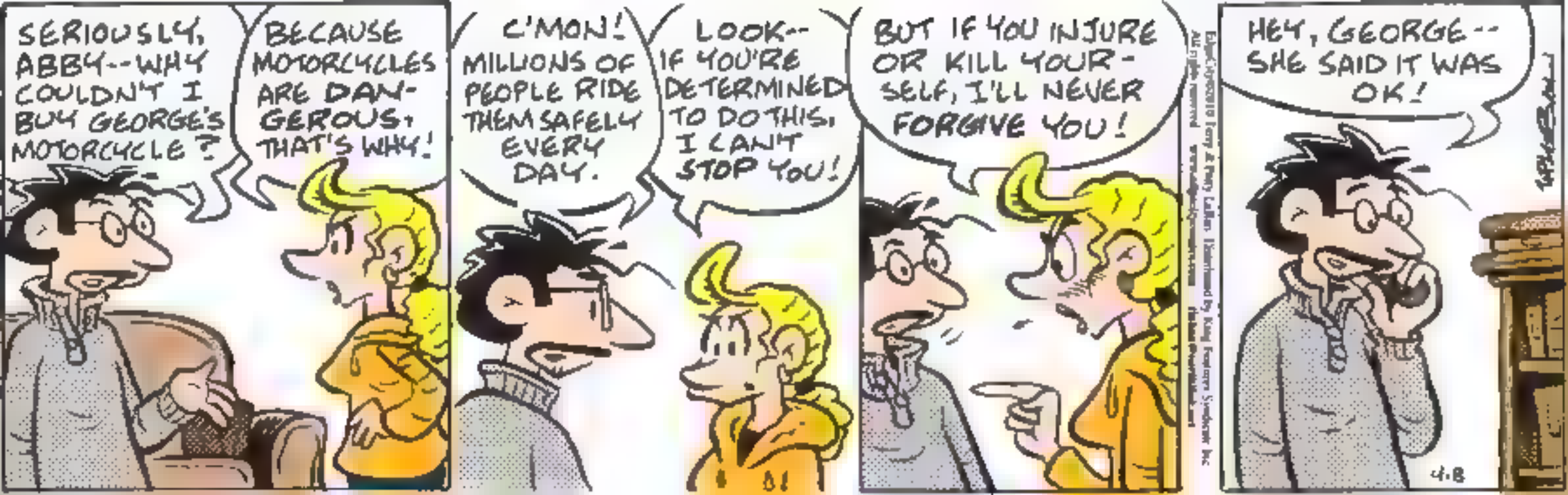
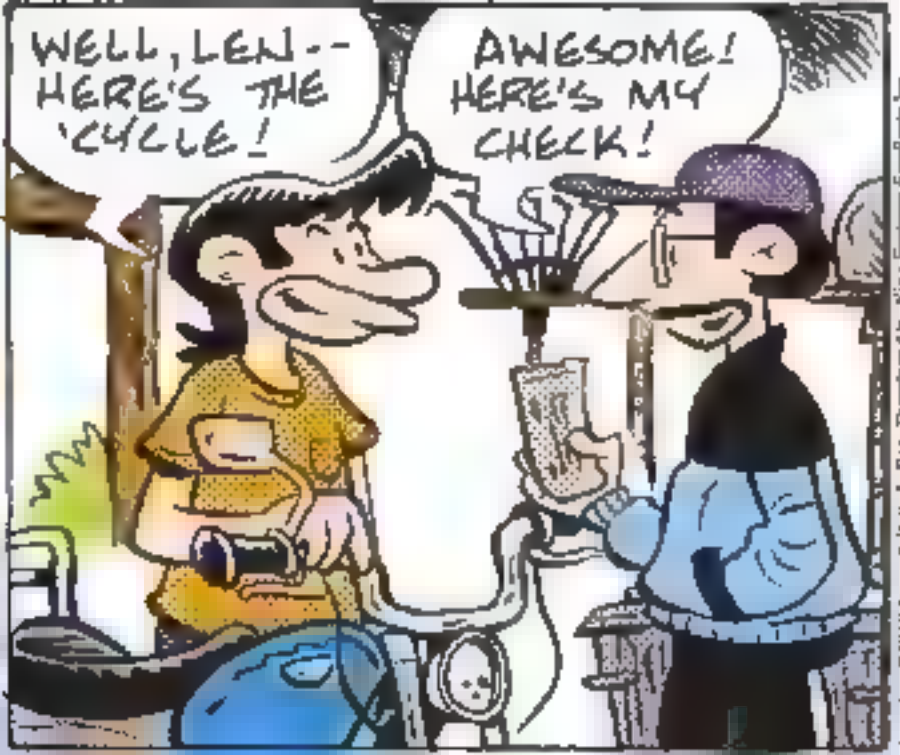


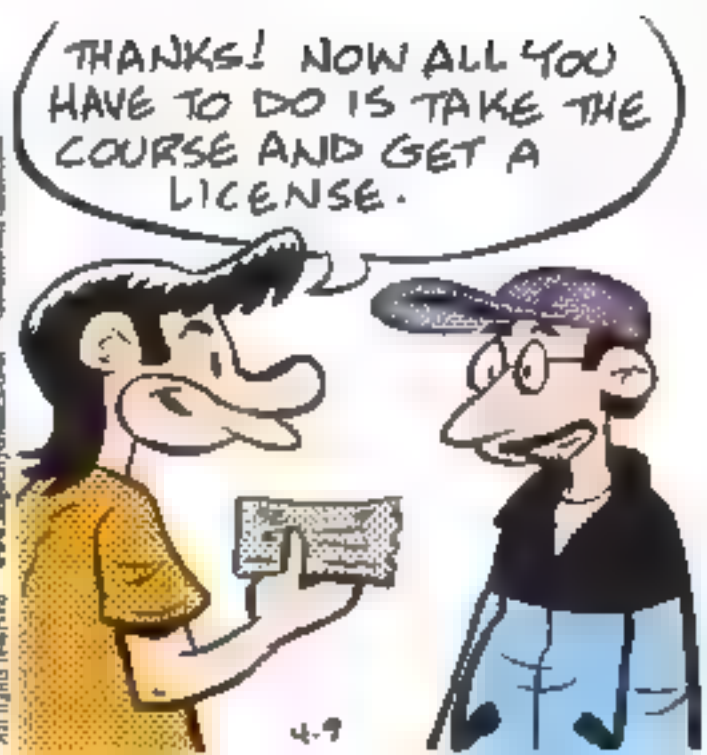

HEY, ABBY--WHAT WOULD YOU THINK IF I BOUGHT A MOTORCYCLE?
A MOTOR-CYCLE?!


GEORGE IS SELLING HIS AND I'VE ALWAYS WANTED ONE.
LEN, DO YOU KNOW HOW DANGEROUS THOSE THINGS ARE?

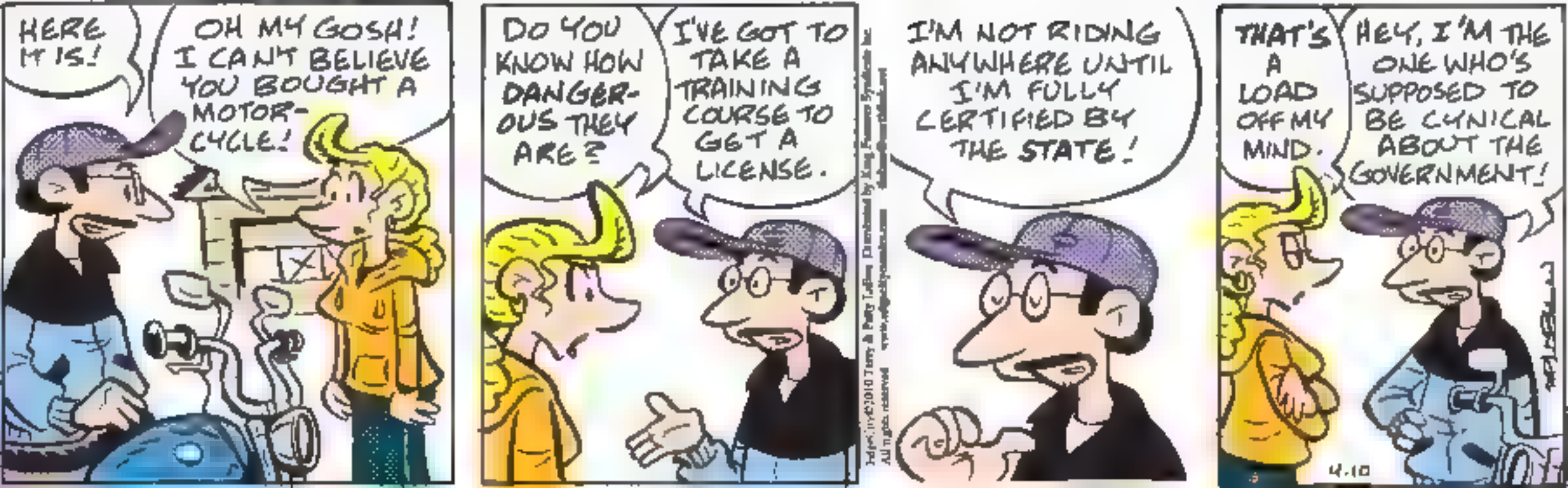

YOU SAID I NEEDED A NEW INTEREST!
I DIDN'T MEAN ONE THAT COULD KILL YOU!


SERIOUSLY, ABBY--WHY COULDN'T I BUY GEORGE'S MOTORCYCLE?
BECAUSE MOTORCYCLES ARE DANGEROUS, THAT'S WHY!
C'MON! MILLIONS OF PEOPLE RIDE THEM SAFELY EVERY DAY.
LOOK-- IF YOU'RE DETERMINED TO DO THIS, I CAN'T STOP YOU!
BUT IF YOU INJURE OR KILL YOURSELF, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
HEY, GEORGE-- SHE SAID IT WAS OK!
4-8

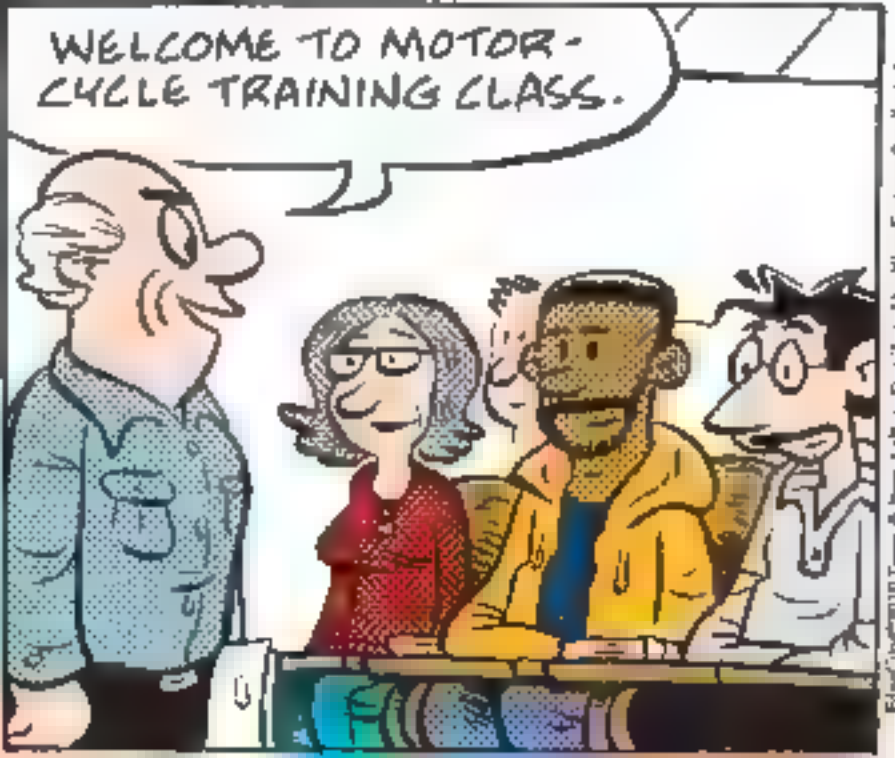

WELL, LEN-- HERE'S THE 'CYCLE!
AWESOME! HERE'S MY CHECK!


THANKS! NOW ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TAKE THE COURSE AND GET A LICENSE.

AND BUY SOME COOL LEATHERS!
YEAH--THAT, TOO.


HERE IT IS!
OH MY GOSH! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU BOUGHT A MOTOR-CYCLE!
DO YOU KNOW HOW DANGER-OUS THEY ARE?
I'VE GOT TO TAKE A TRAINING COURSE TO GET A LICENSE.
I'M NOT RIDING ANYWHERE UNTIL I'M FULLY CERTIFIED BY THE STATE!
THAT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND.
HEY, I'M THE ONE WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE CYNICAL ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT!
4.10

WHAT'S THAT CANDLE FOR?
IT'S FROM THE TEMPLE. TODAY IS HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO LIGHT IT IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST.
WHAT GOOD DOES LIGHTING A CANDLE DO?
WELL, IT HELPS US REMEMBER ALL THE PEOPLE WHO PERISHED.
BUT THE CANDLE REMINDS US OF SOMETHING ELSE, TOO: THAT AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED...
FOOSH!
...WE'RE STILL HERE TO LIGHT IT.



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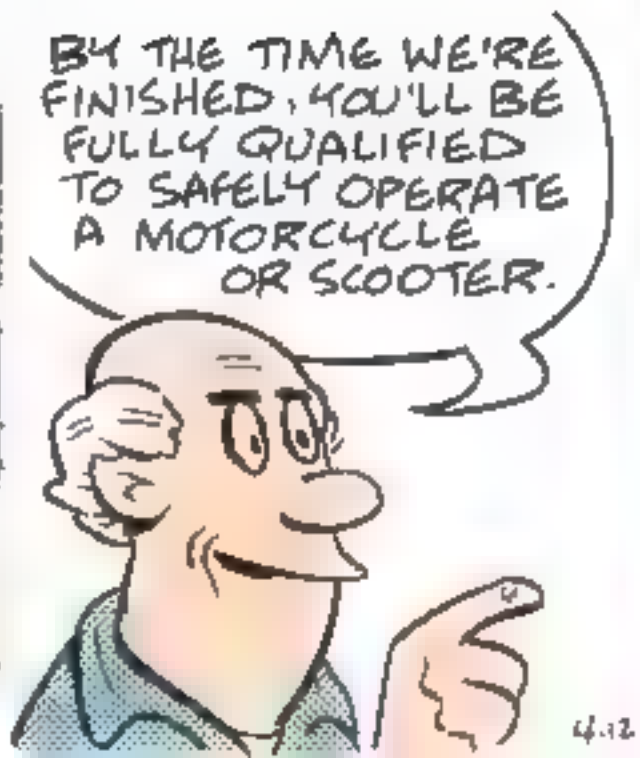

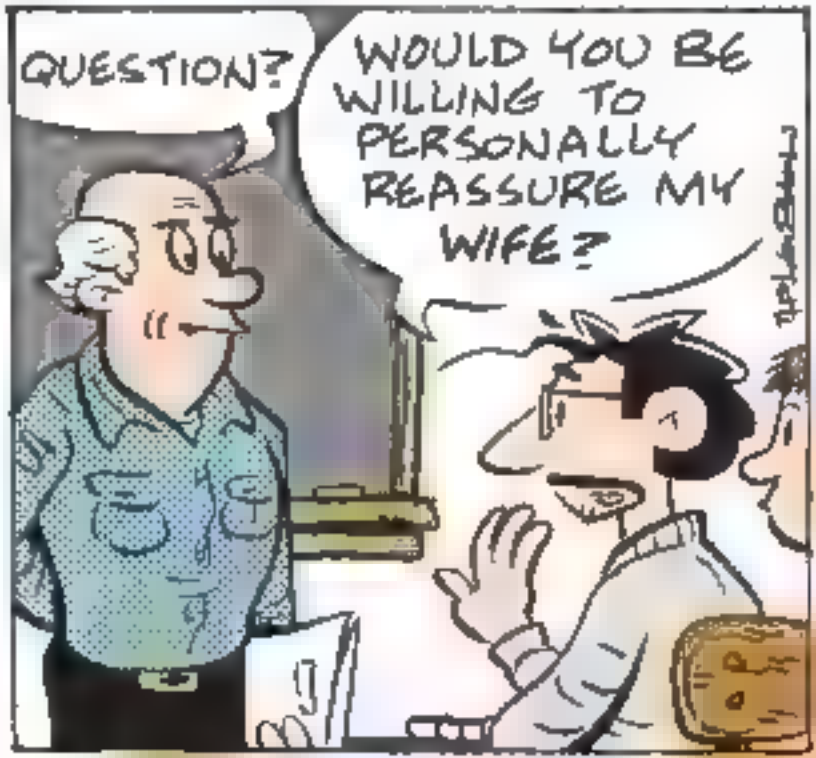

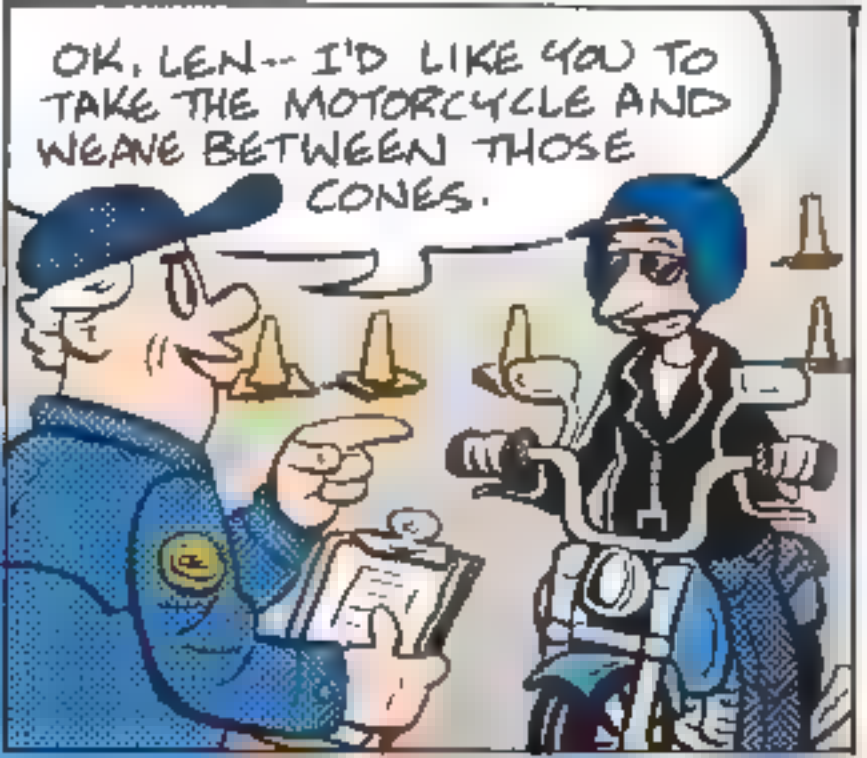

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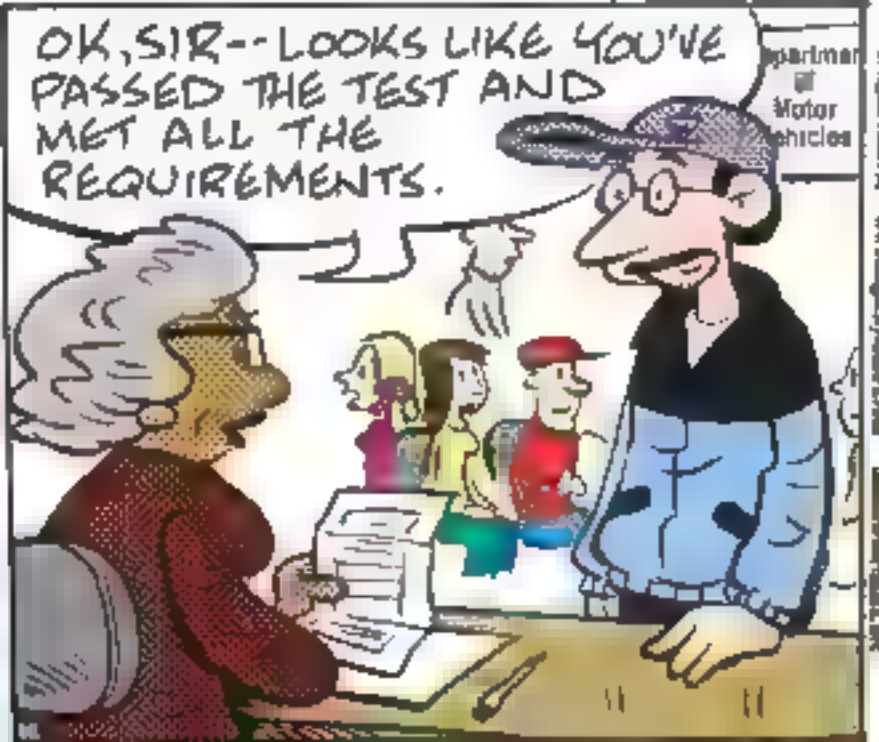

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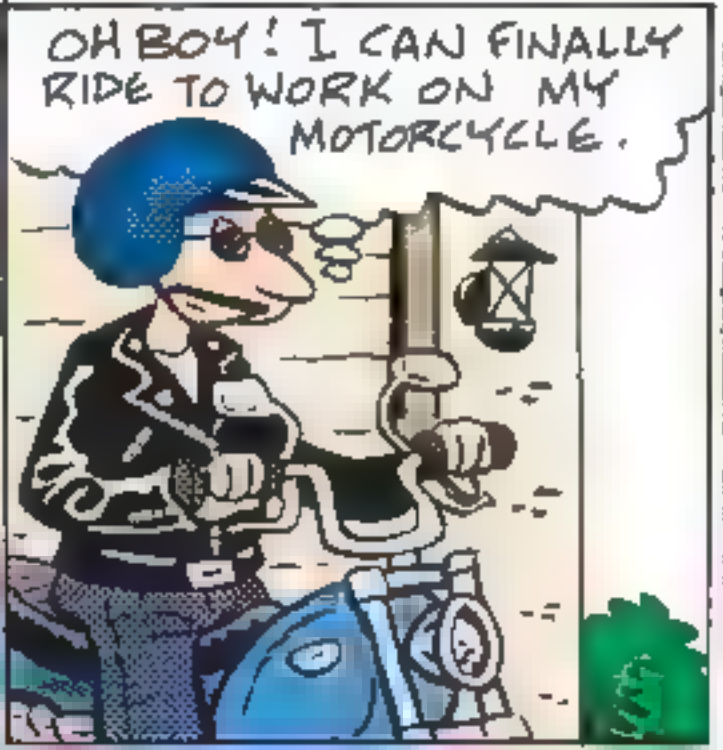
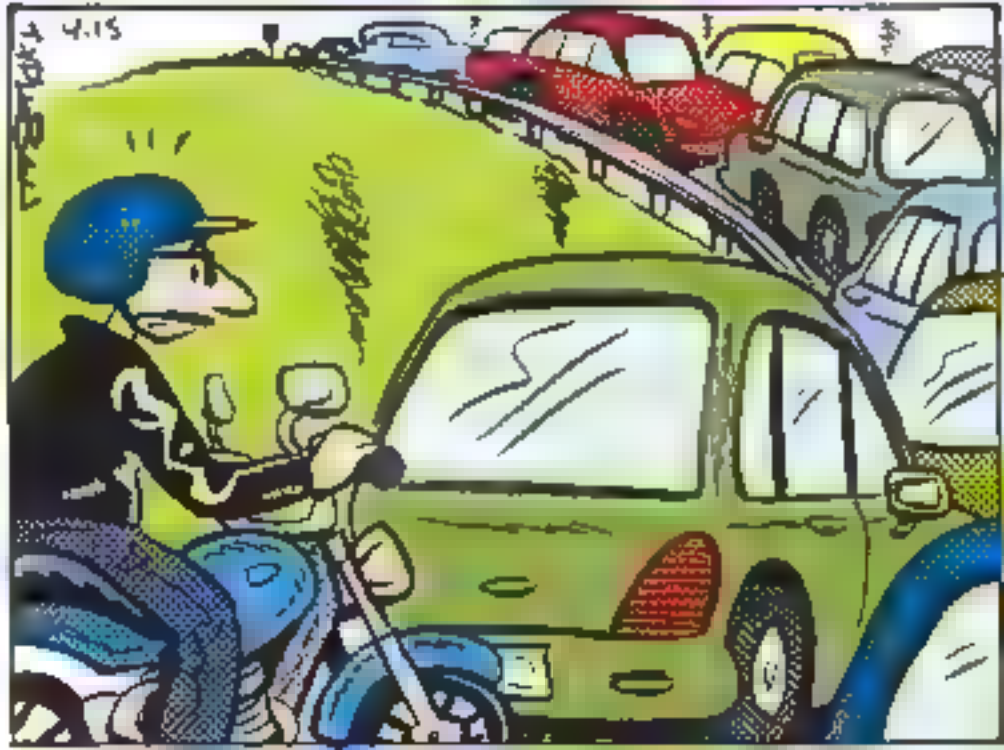

OH BOY! I CAN FINALLY RIDE TO WORK ON MY MOTORCYCLE.

I CAN'T WAIT TO FLY DOWN THE OPEN ROAD, WITH THE WIND ON MY FACE!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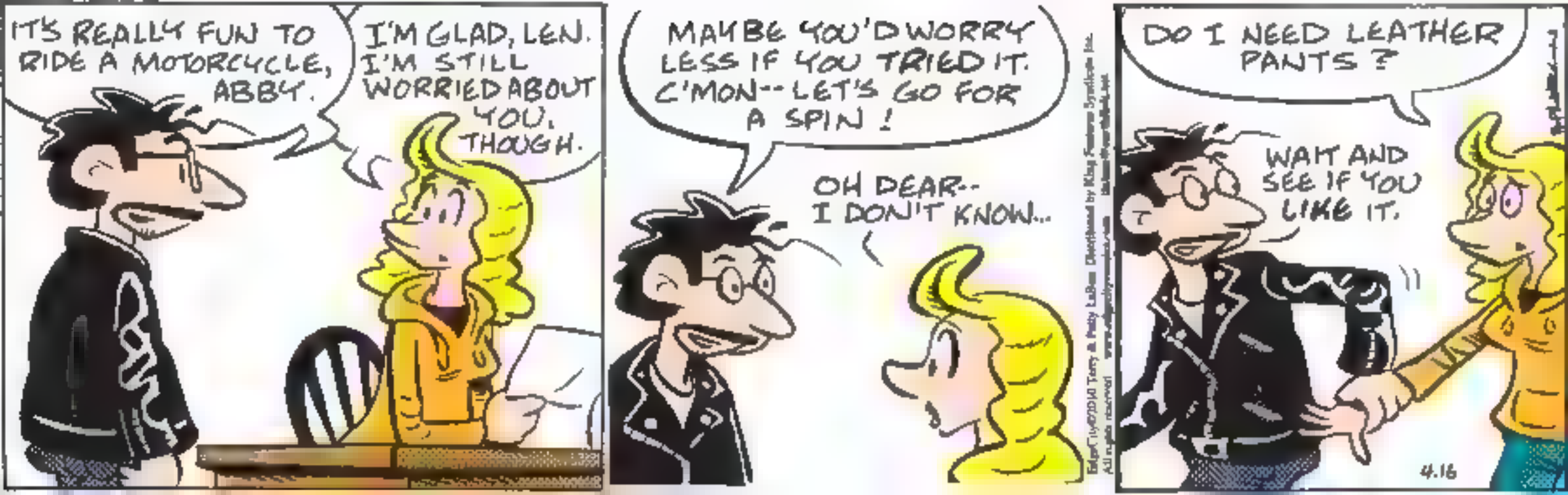
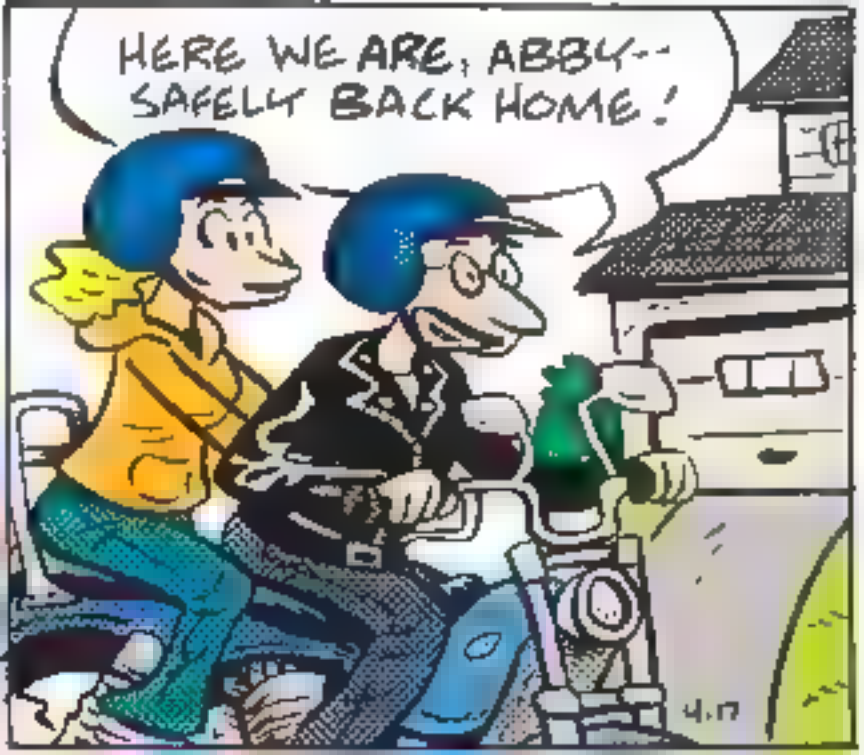
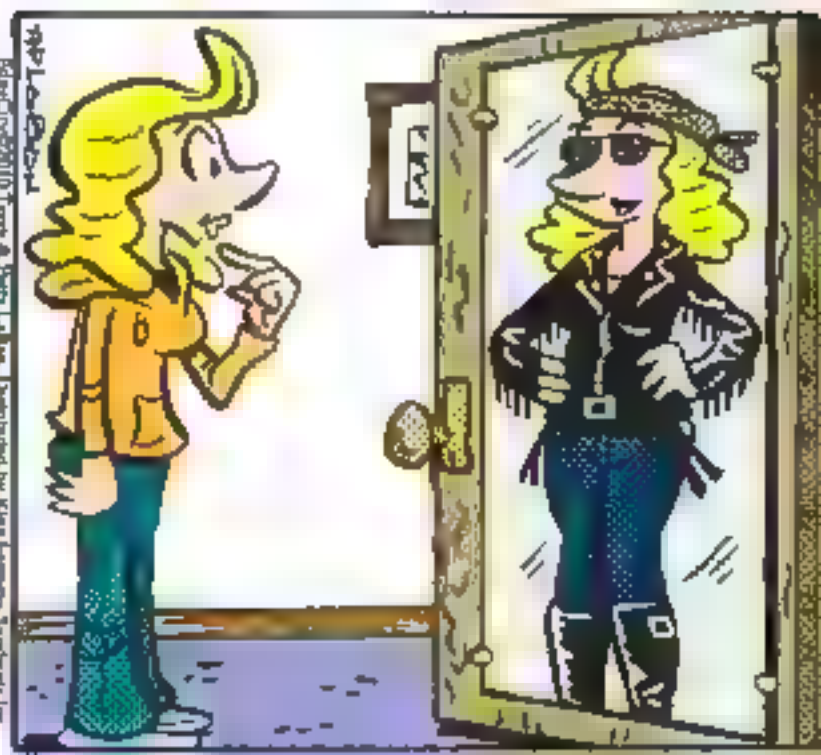

IT'S REALLY FUN TO RIDE A MOTORCYCLE, ABBY.
I'M GLAD, LEN. I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT YOU, THOUGH.
MAYBE YOU'D WORRY LESS IF YOU TRIED IT. C'MON-- LET'S GO FOR A SPIN!
OH DEAR-- I DON'T KNOW...
DO I NEED LEATHER PANTS?
WAIT AND SEE IF YOU LIKE IT.
4.16


HERE WE ARE, ABBY-- SAFELY BACK HOME!
4.17

WOULD YOU WANT TO DO IT AGAIN SOME-TIME?
IT WAS FUN... BUT I'D NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT.


THE LOCKS
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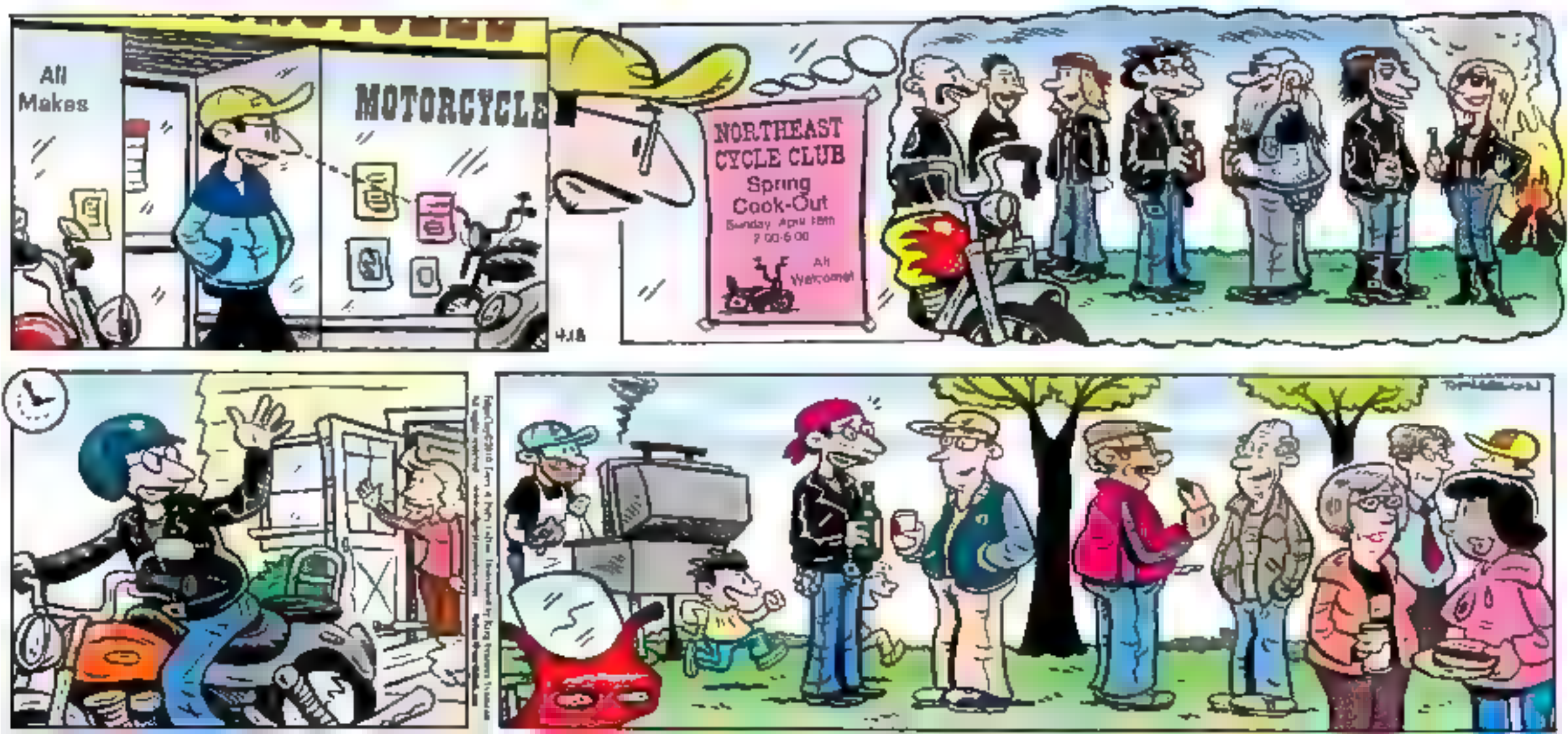
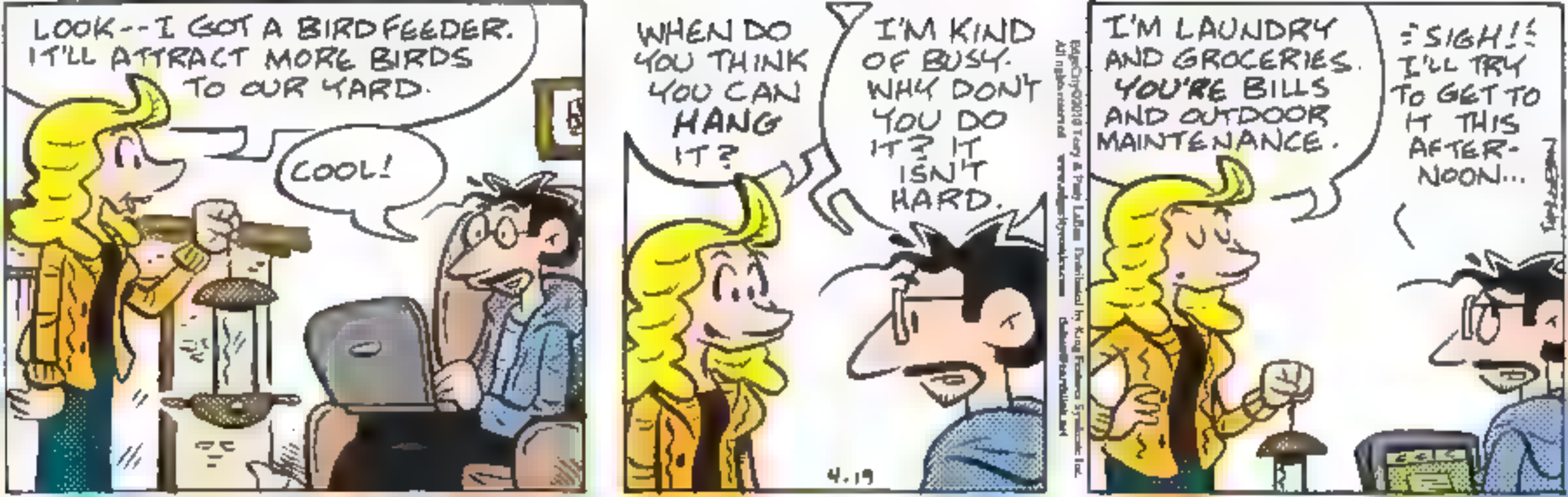
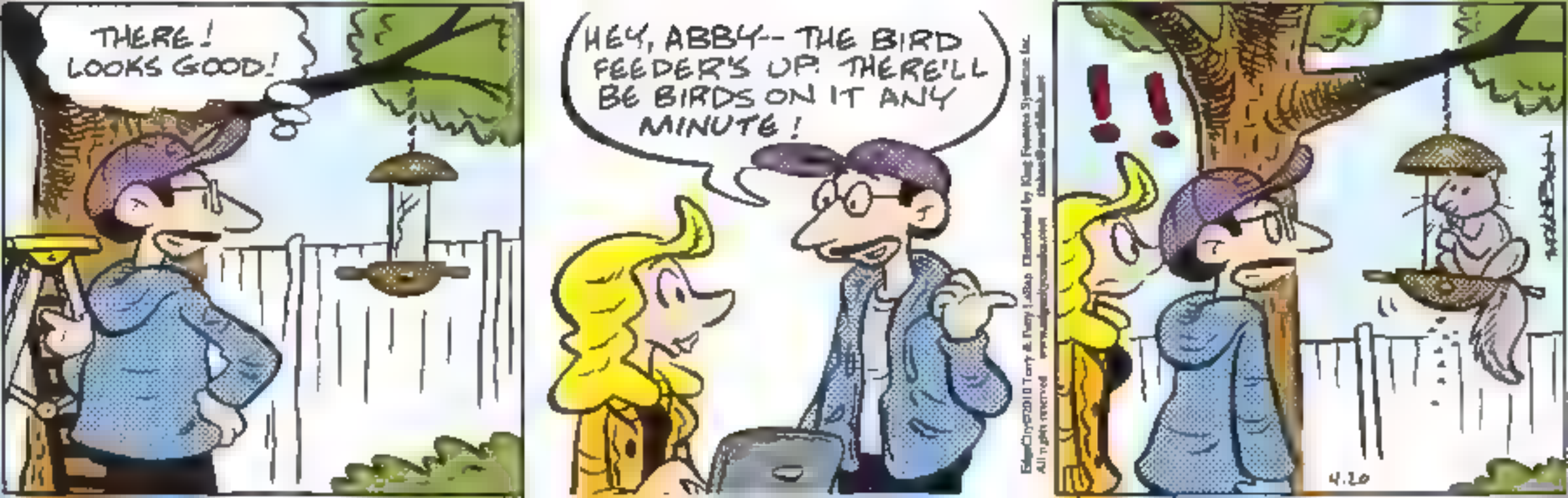
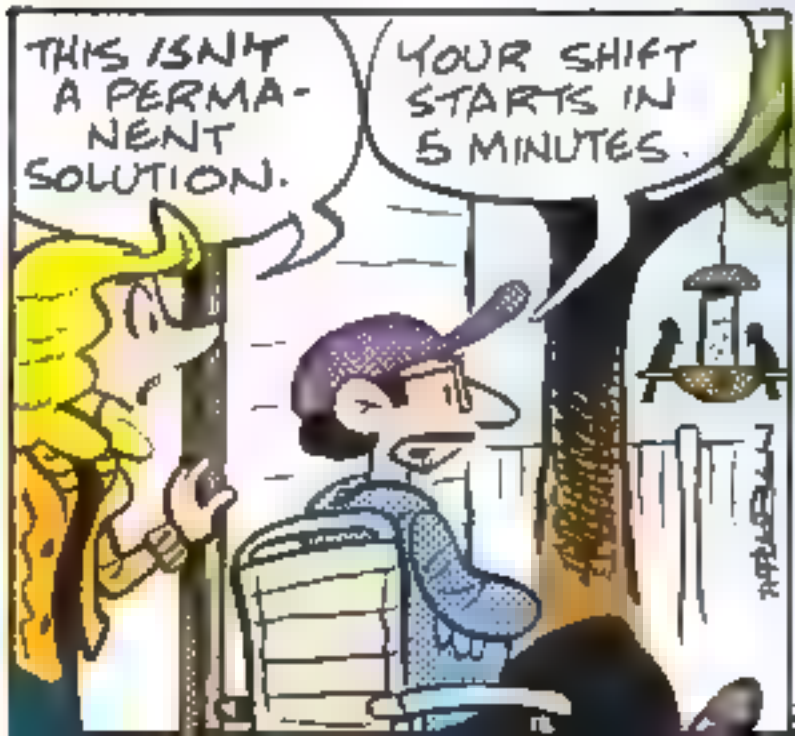

All Makes
MOTORCYCLE
NORTHEAST CYCLE CLUB
Spring Cook-Out
Sunday April 18th
7:00-6:00
All Welcome!

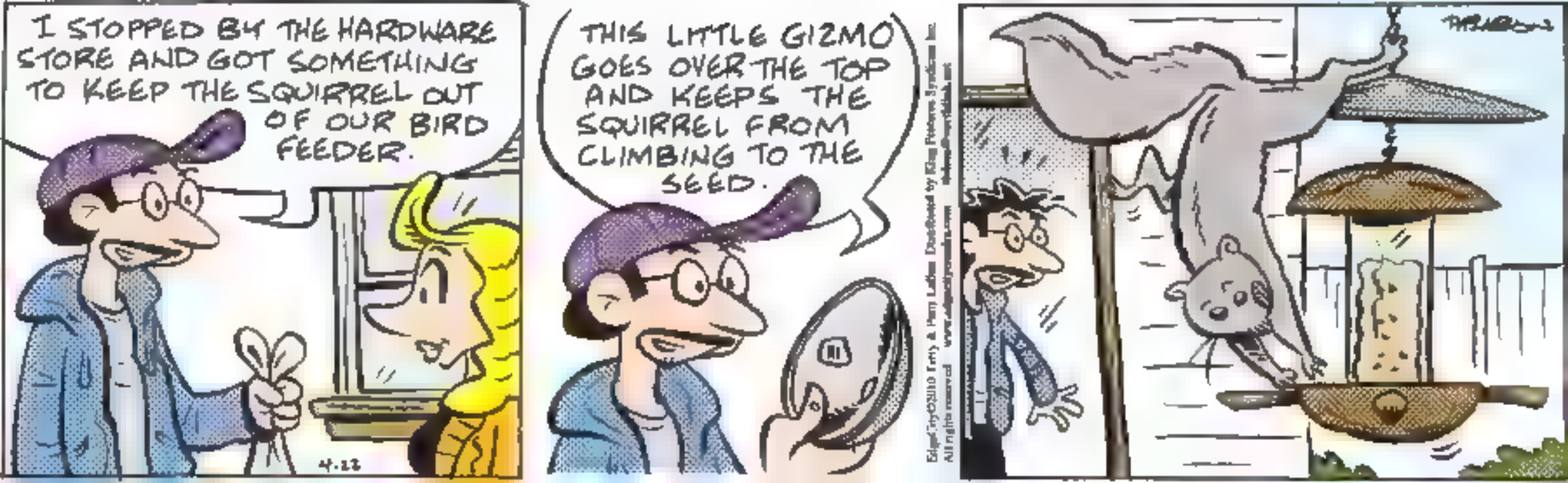

LOOK--I GOT A BIRDFEEDER. IT'LL ATTRACT MORE BIRDS TO OUR YARD.
COOL!
WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HANG IT?
I'M KIND OF BUSY. WHY DON'T YOU DO IT? IT ISN'T HARD.
4.19
I'M LAUNDRY AND GROCERIES. YOU'RE BILLS AND OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE.
SIGH! I'LL TRY TO GET TO IT THIS AFTERNOON...


THERE! LOOKS GOOD!
HEY, ABBY-- THE BIRD FEEDER'S UP. THERE'LL BE BIRDS ON IT ANY MINUTE!
!!
4.20

LEN, THAT BIG SQUIRREL'S EATING OUR BIRDSEED!
DOGGONE IT! SHOO!

WELL, HE'S GONE FOR NOW!
YEAH-- BUT HE'LL COME BACK AS SOON AS WE LEAVE.
4-21


THIS ISN'T A PERMA-NENT SOLUTION.
YOUR SHIFT STARTS IN 5 MINUTES.


I STOPPED BY THE HARDWARE STORE AND GOT SOMETHING TO KEEP THE SQUIRREL OUT OF OUR BIRD FEEDER.
4-22
THIS LITTLE GIZMO GOES OVER THE TOP AND KEEPS THE SQUIRREL FROM CLIMBING TO THE SEED.
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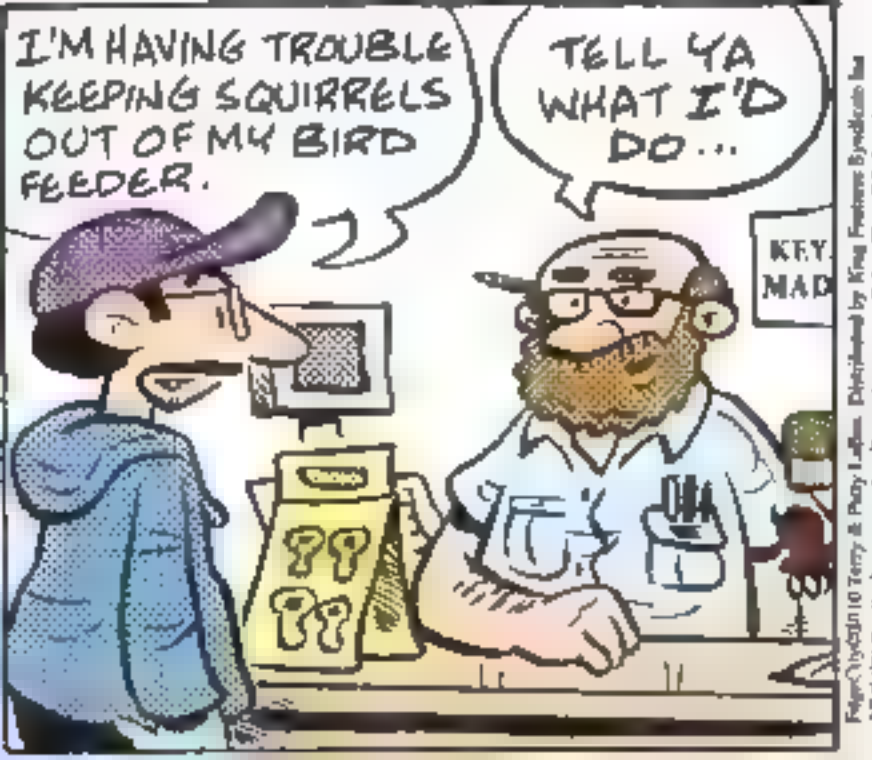
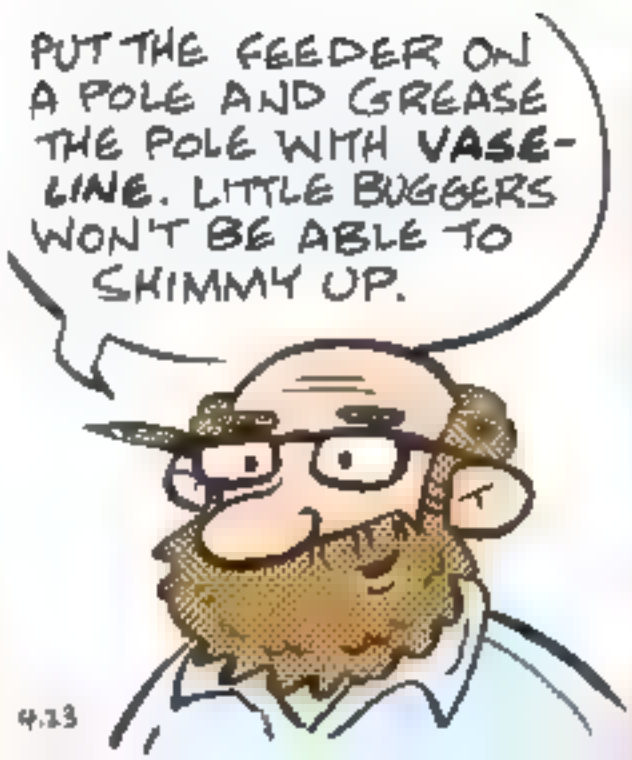
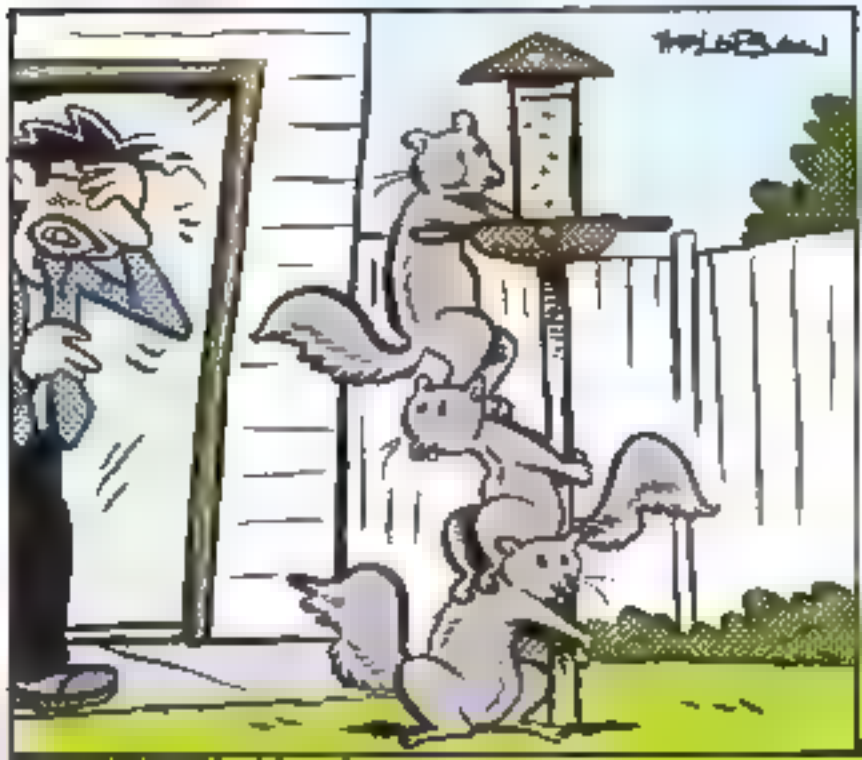
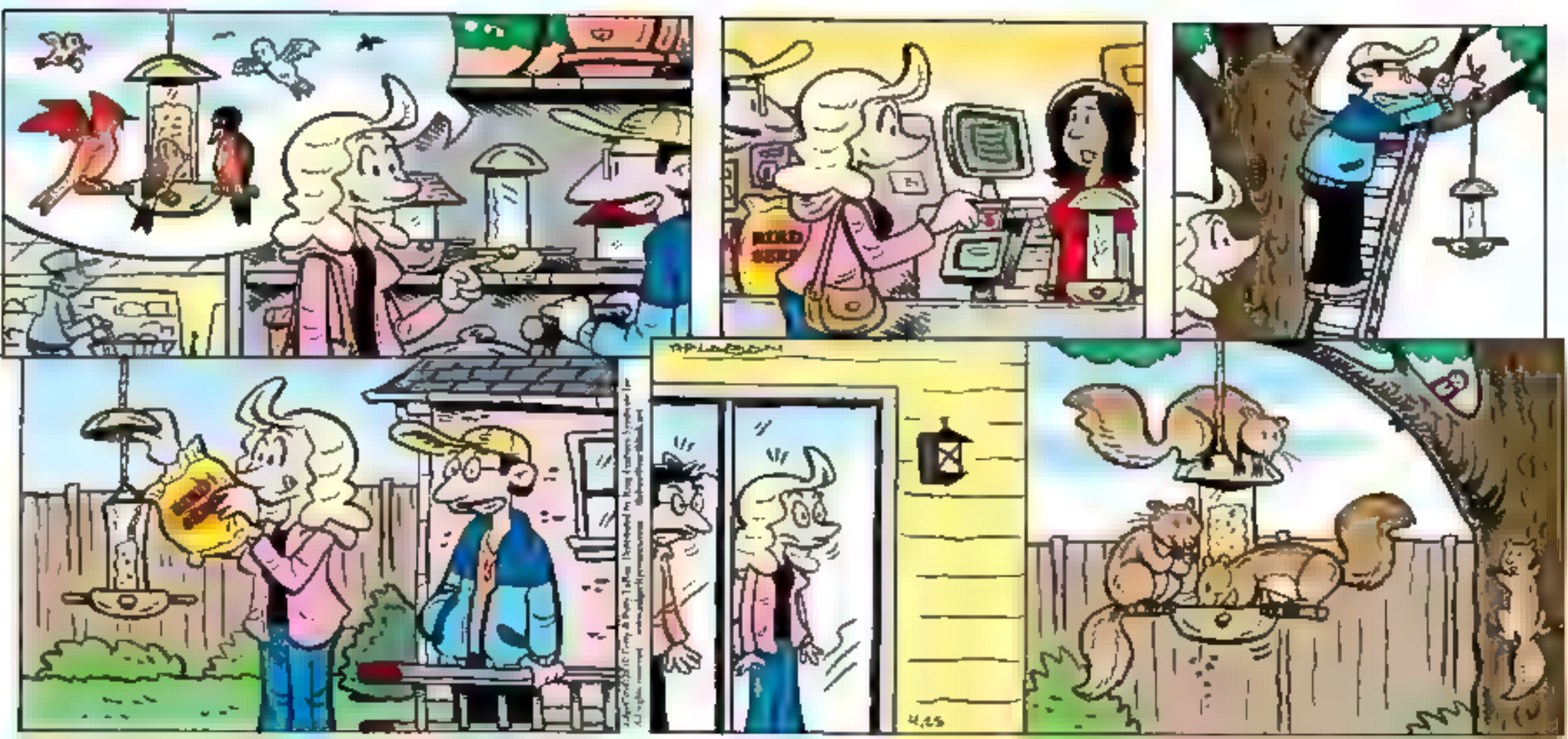
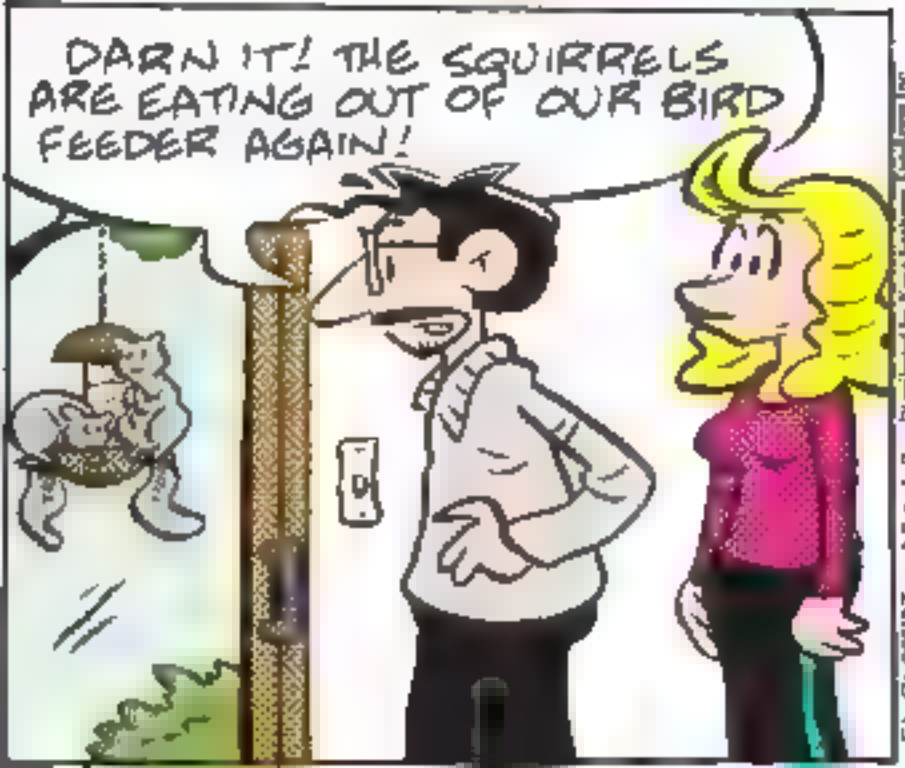

I'M HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING SQUIRRELS OUT OF MY BIRD FEEDER.
TELL YA WHAT I'D DO...
KEY MAD


PUT THE FEEDER ON A POLE AND GREASE THE POLE WITH VASELINE. LITTLE BUGGERS WON'T BE ABLE TO SKIMMY UP.
4.23



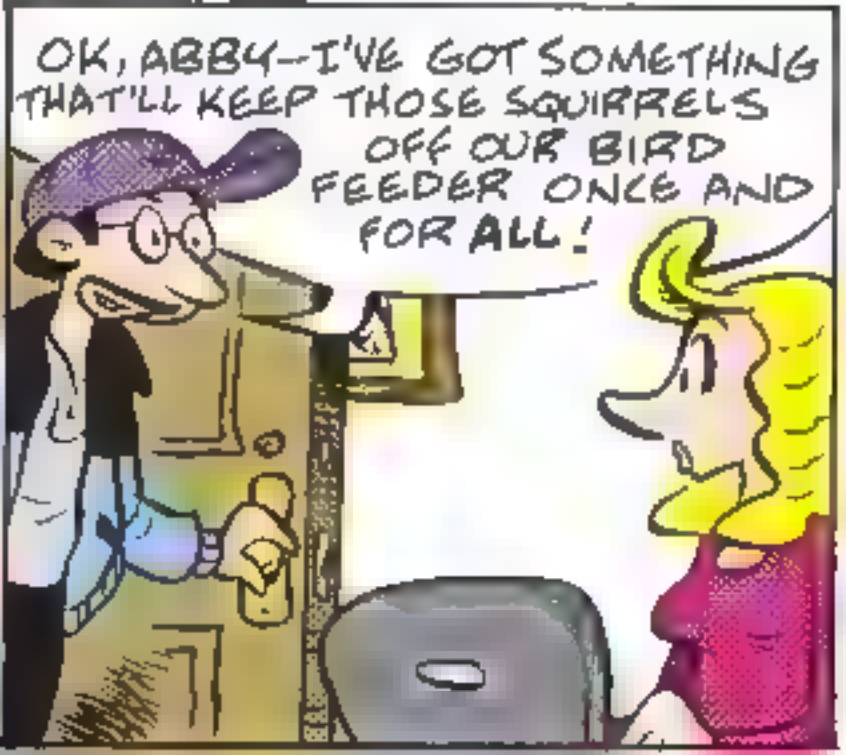
WE'VE GOTTA FIND A WAY TO KEEP THOSE SQUIRRELS OUT OF OUR BIRD FEEDER!
YOU'RE GETTING OBSESSED, LEN!
STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT. SO WHAT IF SQUIRRELS EAT SOME OF OUR BIRD-SEED?
4-24


BIRD SEED


DARN IT! THE SQUIRRELS ARE EATING OUT OF OUR BIRD FEEDER AGAIN!

THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING THAT'LL KEEP THEM AWAY-- AND I'M GONNA FIND IT!

I'LL GET YOU, SQUIRRELS--IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!!
YOU'RE DOING THAT CHARLTON HESTON THING.
4.26



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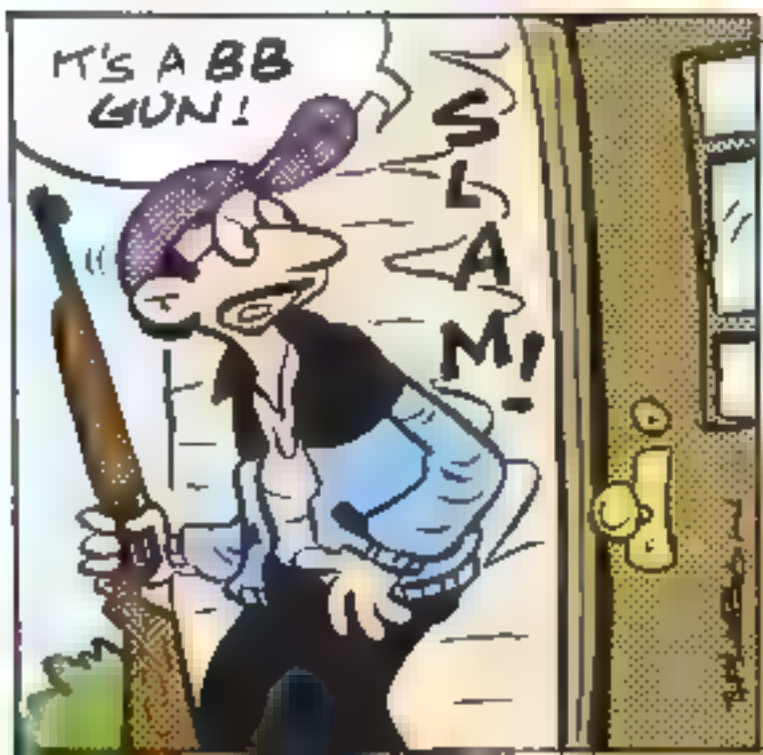

YOU'RE GOING AFTER THE SQUIRRELS WITH A GUN?!

IT'S A BB GUN, ABBY!

IT WON'T KILL THE SQUIRRELS, JUST SCARE THEM SO THEY'LL STAY OUT OF OUR BIRD FEEDER.

4.28

I STILL DON'T LIKE IT.

AW, I SHOT BB GUNS A LOT AS A KID. IT'S NO BIG DEAL.

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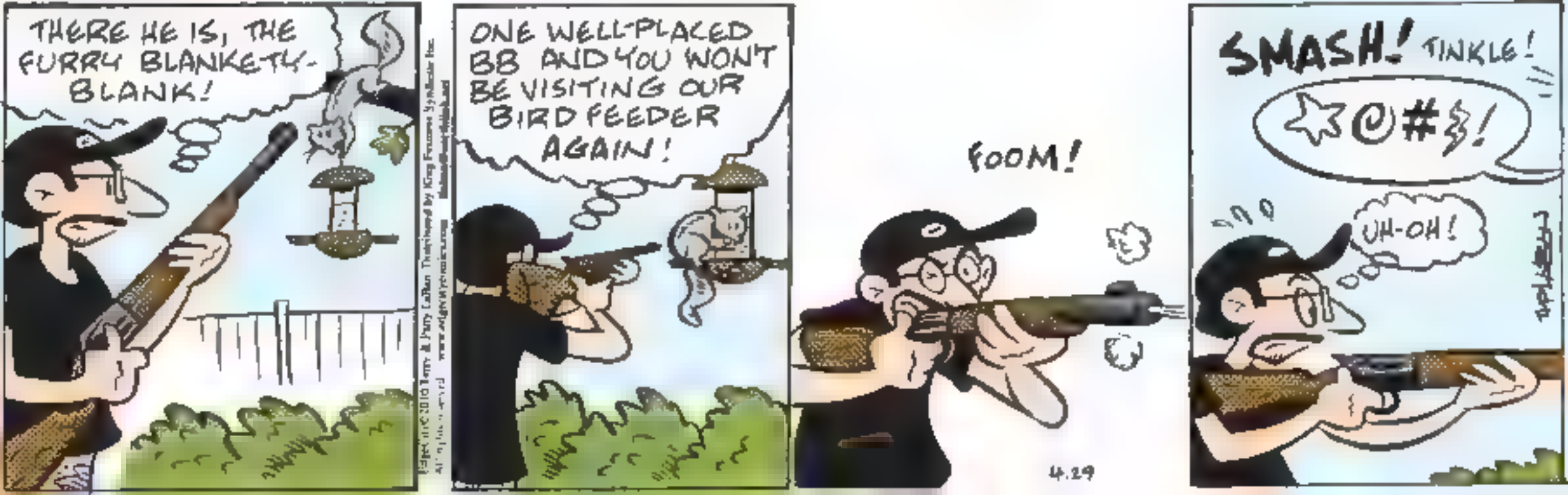
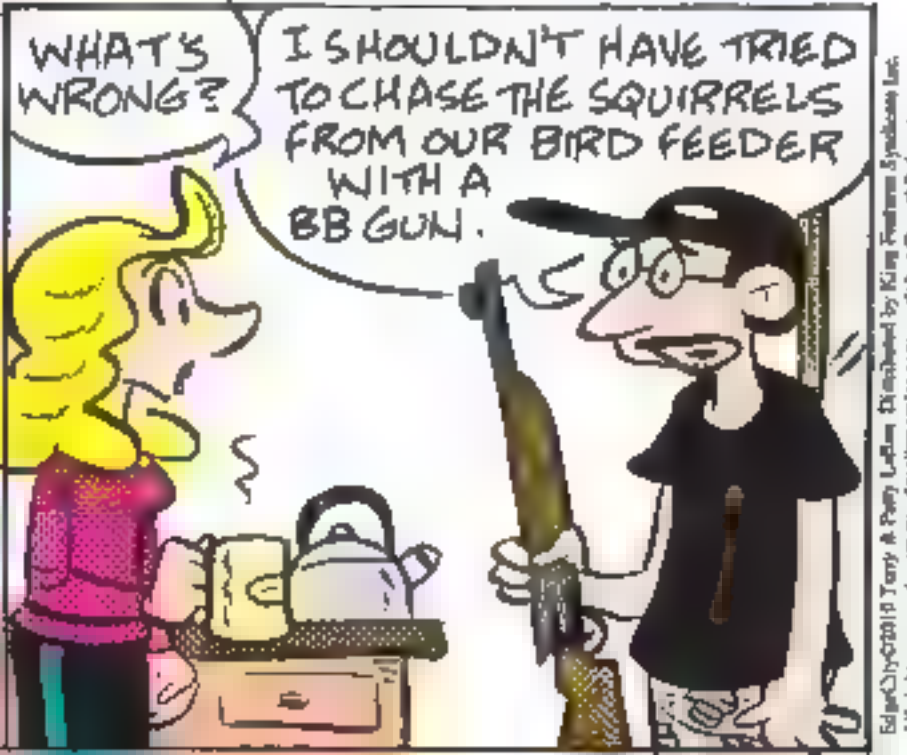
C'MON, SUCKER-- MAKE MY DAY!


THERE HE IS, THE FURRY BLANKETY-BLANK!
ONE WELL-PLACED BB AND YOU WON'T BE VISITING OUR BIRD FEEDER AGAIN!
FOOM!
4.29
SMASH! TINKLE!
☆@#$!
UH-OH!



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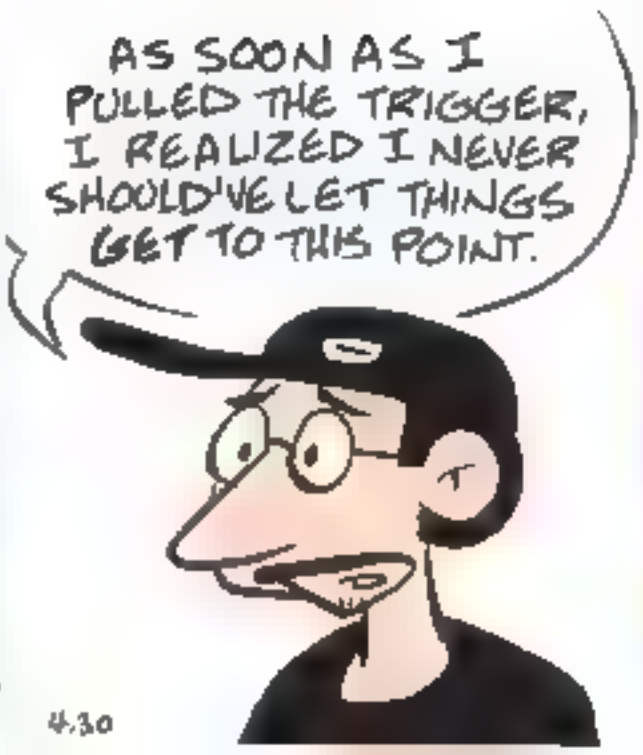
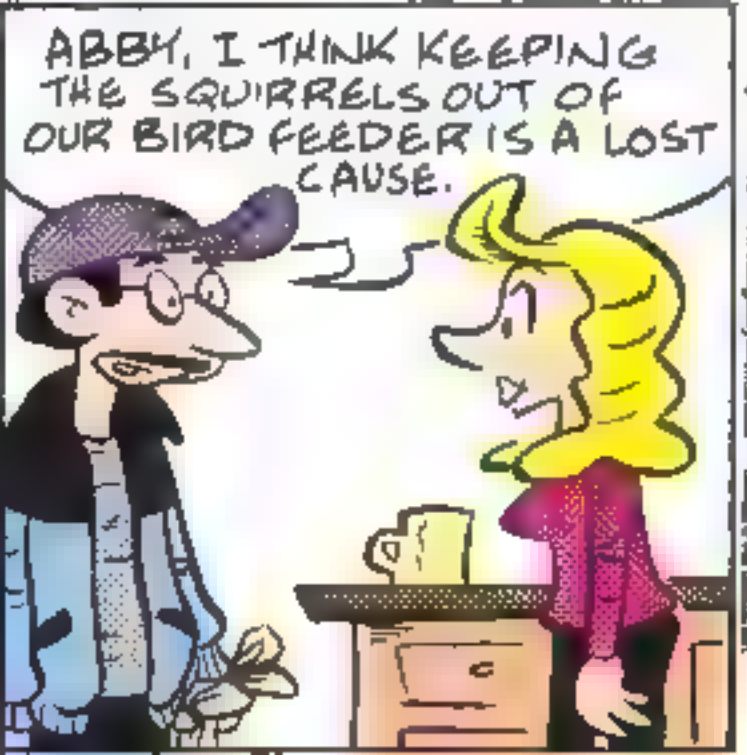
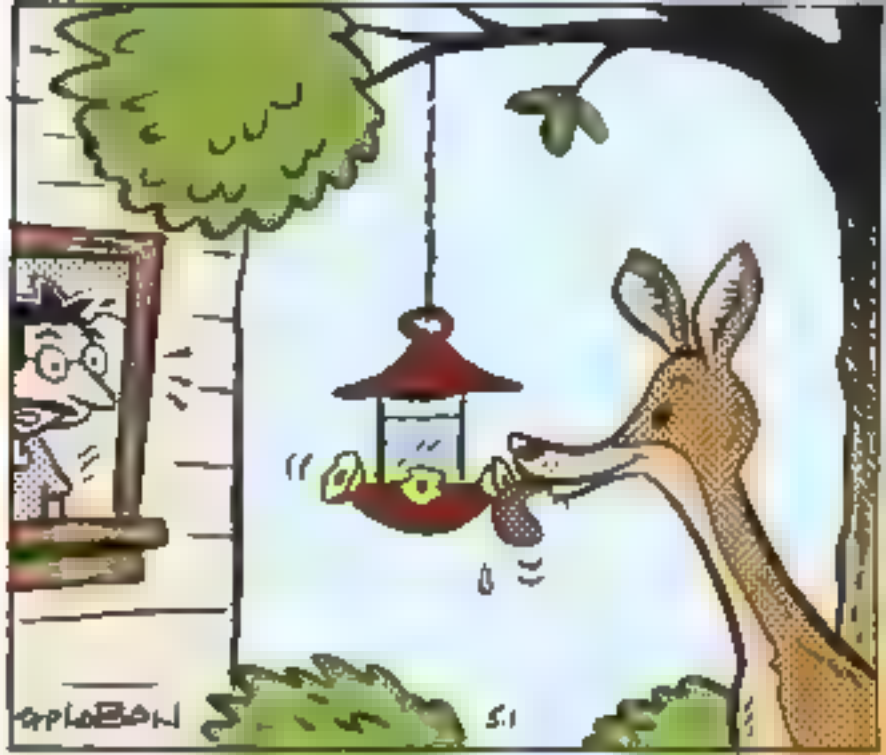



ABBY, I THINK KEEPING THE SQUIRRELS OUT OF OUR BIRD FEEDER IS A LOST CAUSE.

I'M HANGING A HUMMING-BIRD FEEDER INSTEAD. THE SQUIRRELS DON'T HAVE ANY INTEREST IN SUGAR WATER.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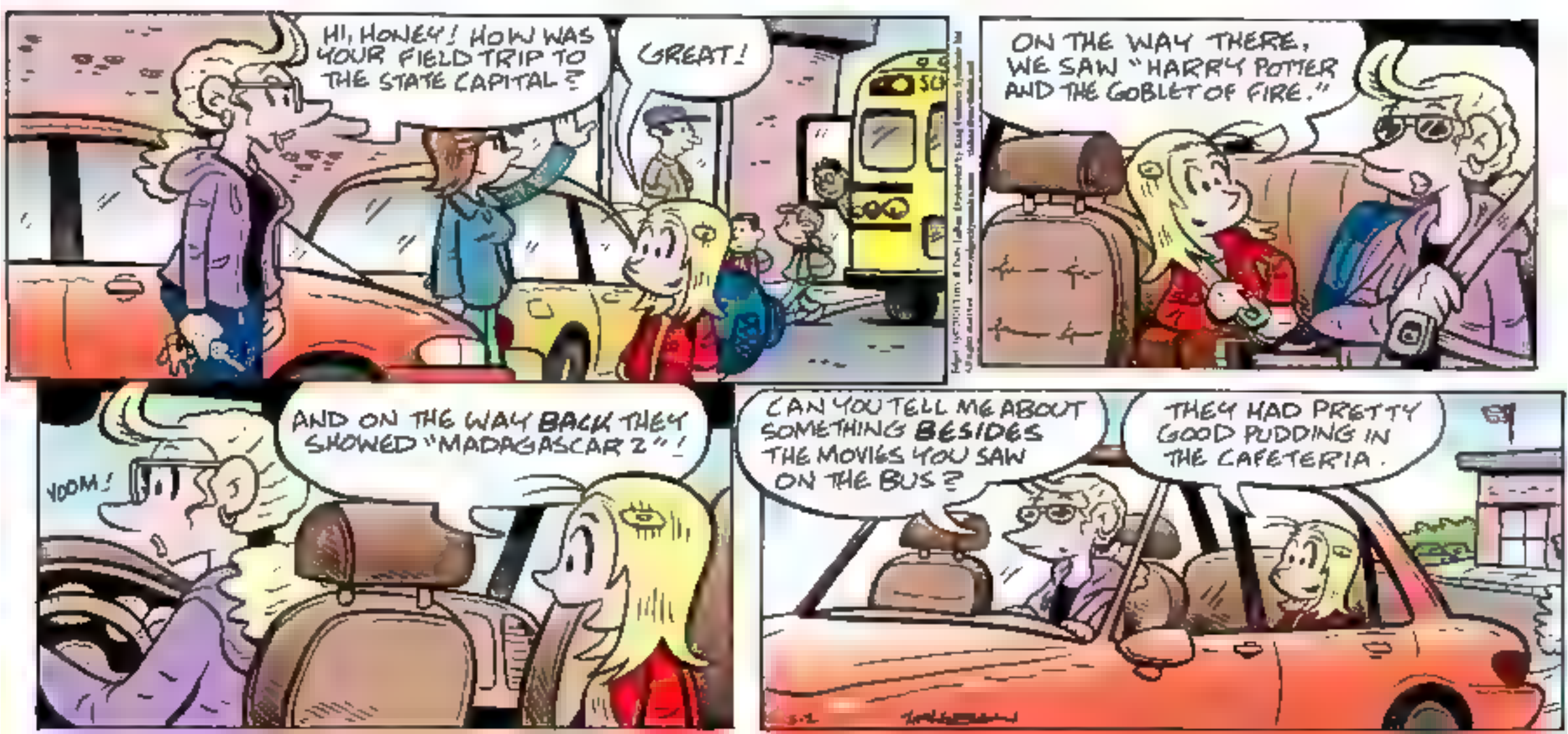
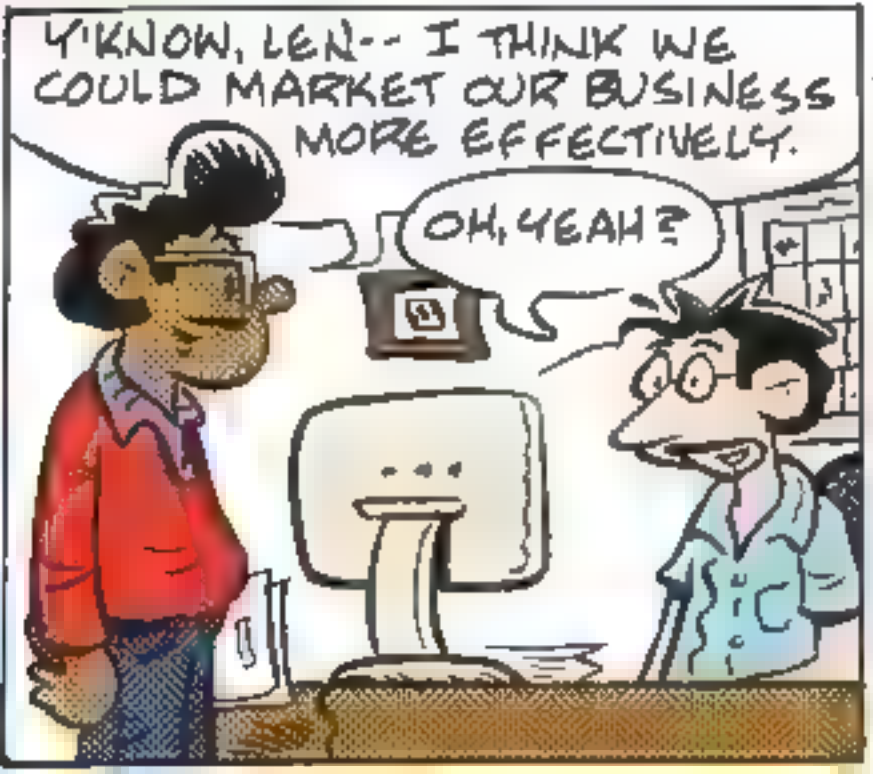

HI, HONEY! HOW WAS YOUR FIELD TRIP TO THE STATE CAPITAL?
GREAT!
ON THE WAY THERE, WE SAW "HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE."
AND ON THE WAY BACK THEY SHOWED "MADAGASCAR 2"!
VOOM!
CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT SOMETHING BESIDES THE MOVIES YOU SAW ON THE BUS?
THEY HAD PRETTY GOOD PUDDING IN THE CAFETERIA.



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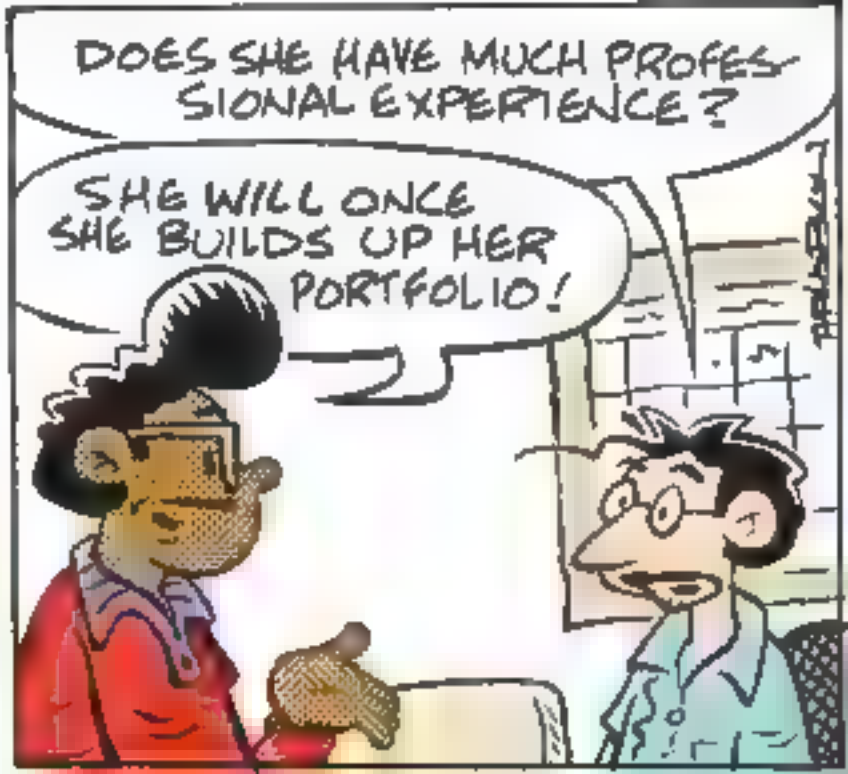
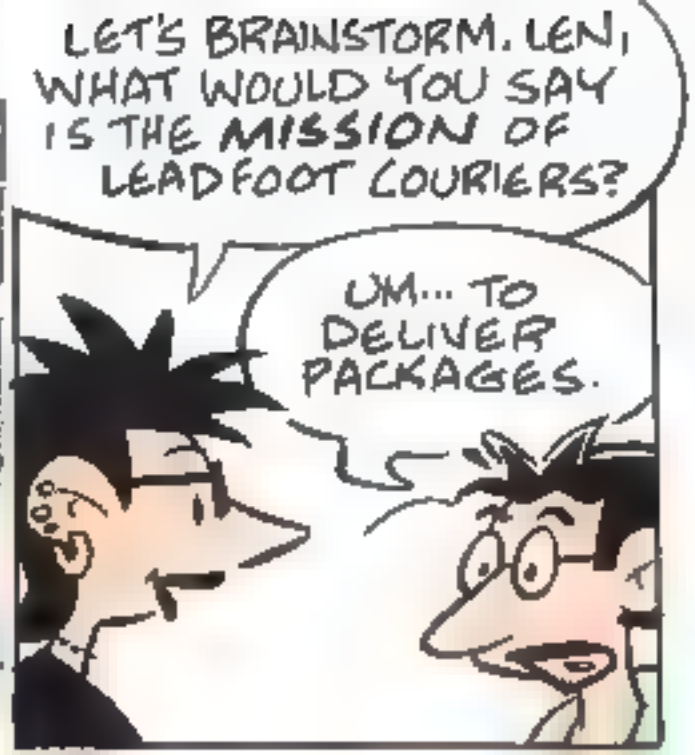
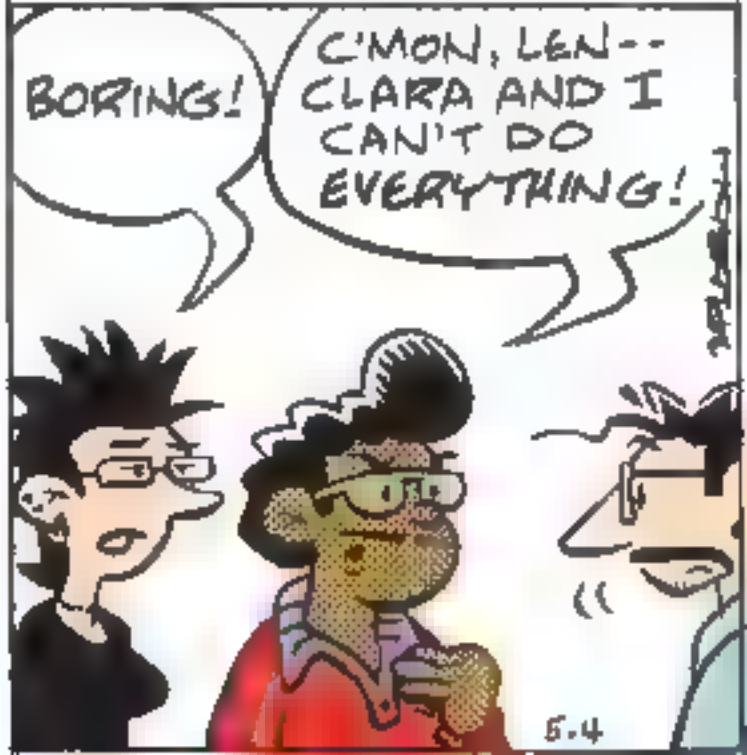
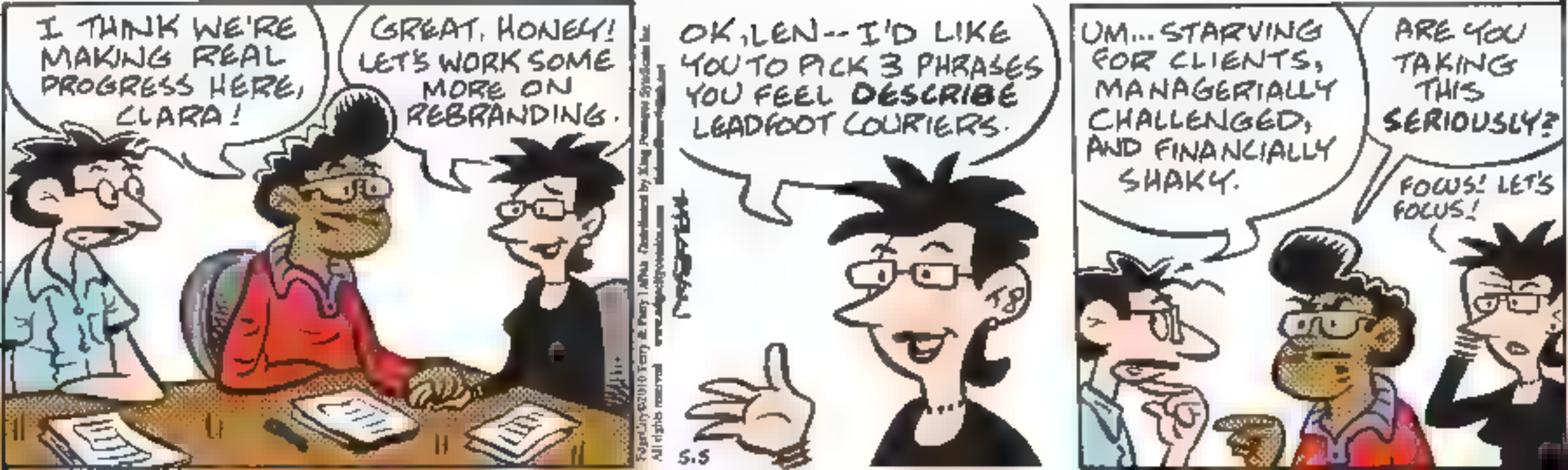
5.3



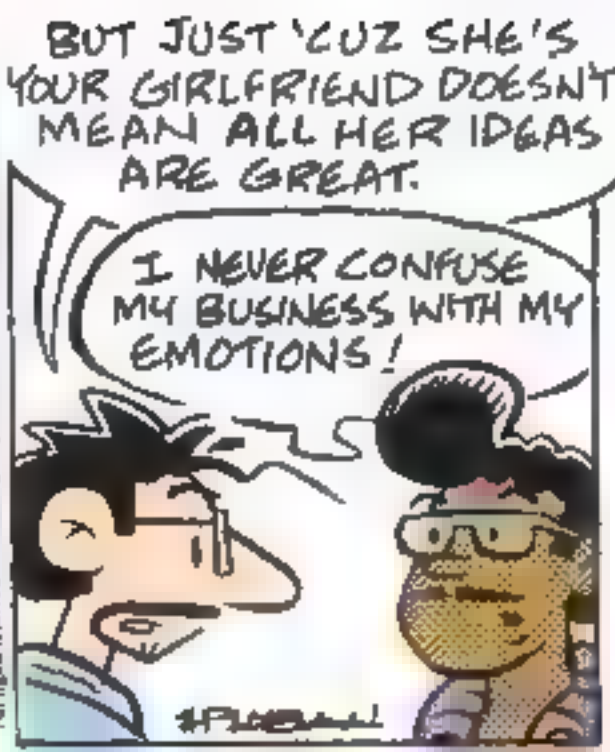
CLARA, THIS IS LEN. HE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO REBRAND OUR COMPANY.
COOL!

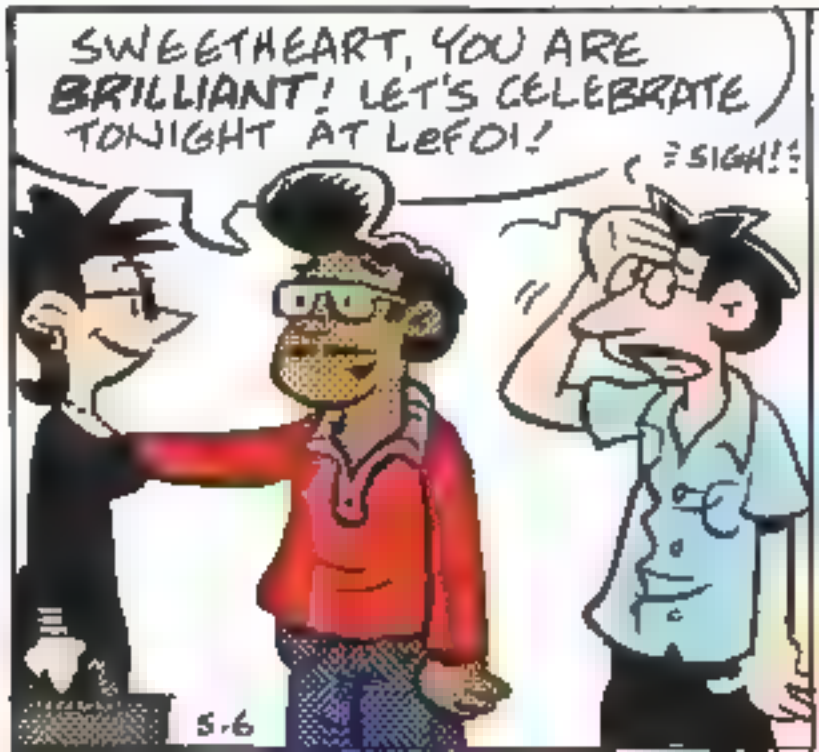

LET'S BRAINSTORM. LEN, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE MISSION OF LEADFOOT COURIERS?
UM... TO DELIVER PACKAGES.

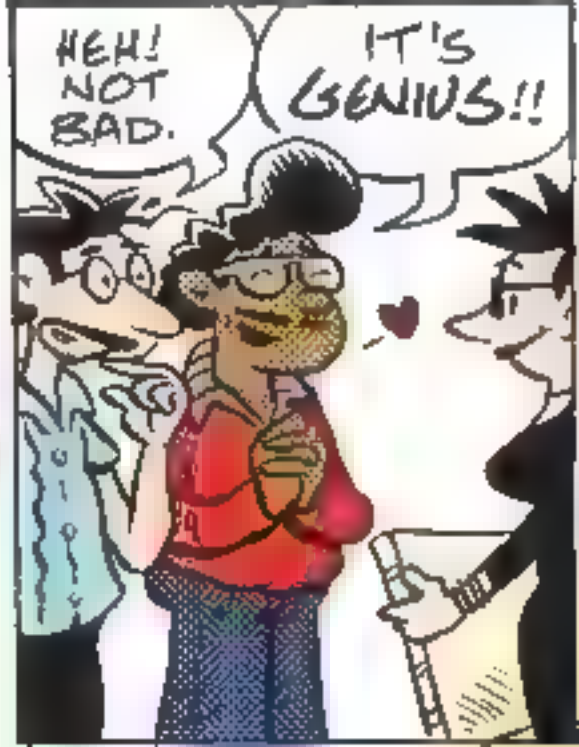

BORING!
C'MON, LEN-- CLARA AND I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING!
5.4


I THINK WE'RE MAKING REAL PROGRESS HERE, CLARA!
GREAT, HONEY! LET'S WORK SOME MORE ON REBRANDING.
OK, LEN -- I'D LIKE YOU TO PICK 3 PHRASES YOU FEEL DESCRIBE LEADFOOT COURIERS.
UM... STARVING FOR CLIENTS, MANAGERIALLY CHALLENGED, AND FINANCIALLY SHAKY.
ARE YOU TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY?
FOCUS! LET'S FOCUS!
5.5

ISN'T CLARA DOING A GREAT JOB OF HELPING US REBRAND OUR COMPANY?
SHE DOES SEEM SMART.


BUT JUST 'CUZ SHE'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND DOESN'T MEAN ALL HER IDEAS ARE GREAT.
I NEVER CONFUSE MY BUSINESS WITH MY EMOTIONS!


SWEETHEART, YOU ARE BRILLIANT! LET'S CELEBRATE TONIGHT AT LEFOI!
SIGH!
5-6



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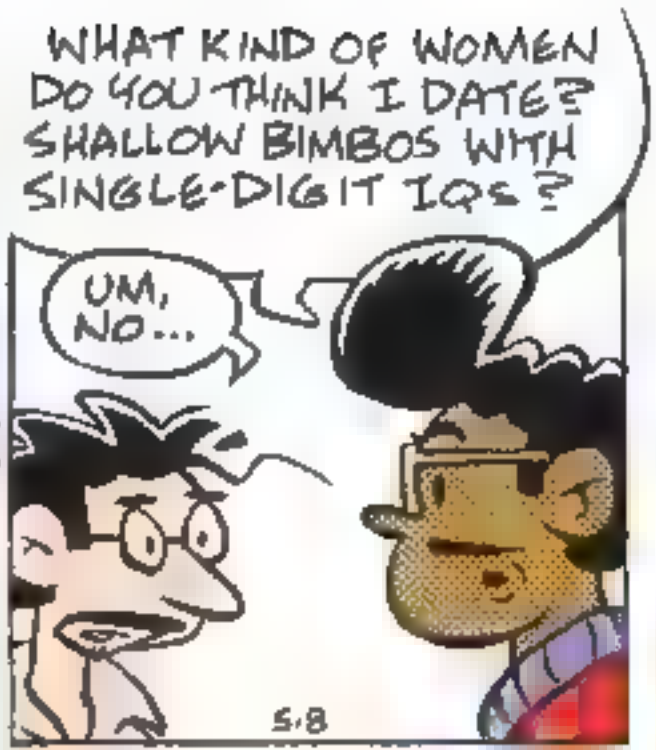

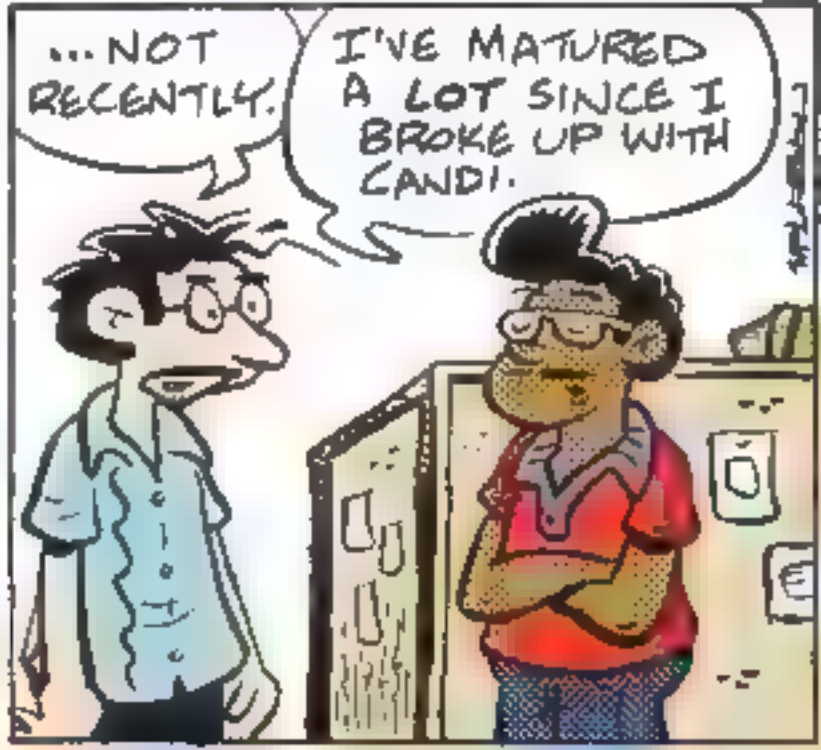

HOW LONG IS THE WAIT? RIGHT NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE TILL JUST ABOUT FATHER'S DAY.
GOOD FOOD
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
5.9

LEN, CLARA'S HERE WITH A NEW SLOGAN FOR OUR BUSINESS!
YEAH? LET'S SEE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
"LEADFOOT COURIERS-- WHEN IT'S REALLY GOTTA GO!"
Leadfoot Couriers: When It's Really Gotta Go!
5-10
YOU SEE, SWEETIE? HE LOVES IT!
UM...

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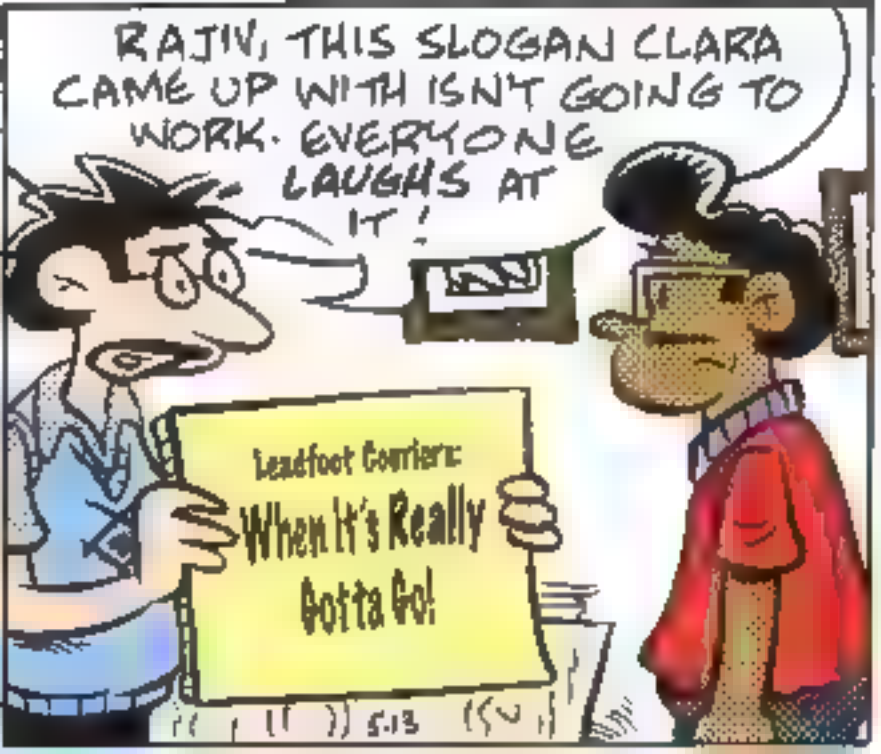
RAJIV, I'M GLAD YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S HELPING US REBRAND. BUT I DON'T LOVE HER NEW SLOGAN.
I THINK IT'S GREAT.
LET'S GET SOME FEEDBACK FROM THE STAFF.
IF THAT'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY, LEN, FINE!
SNORK! BWA HA HA!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
ANYONE IN THE LADY'S ROOM?
CHORTLE!
HAW!
Leadfoot Couriers:
When It's Really Gotta Go!



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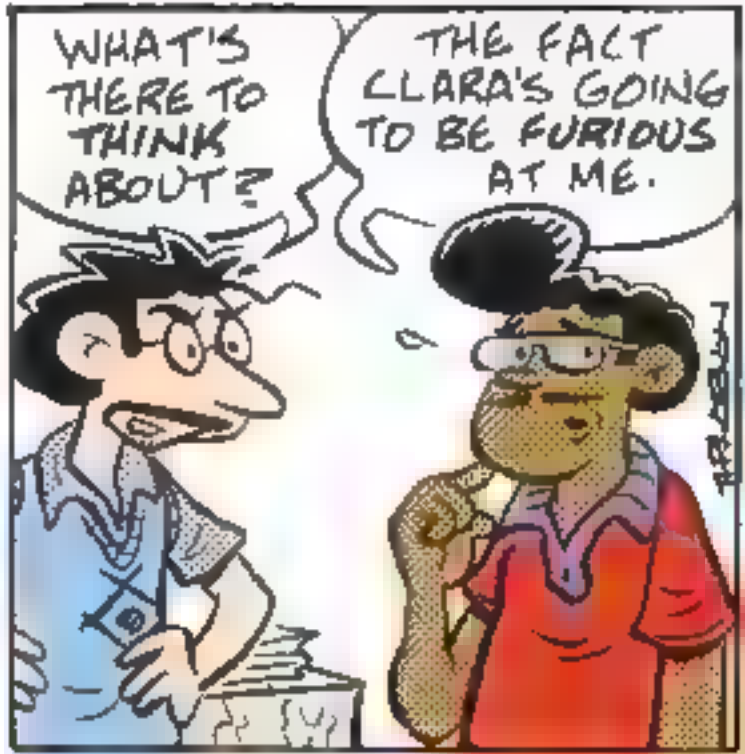

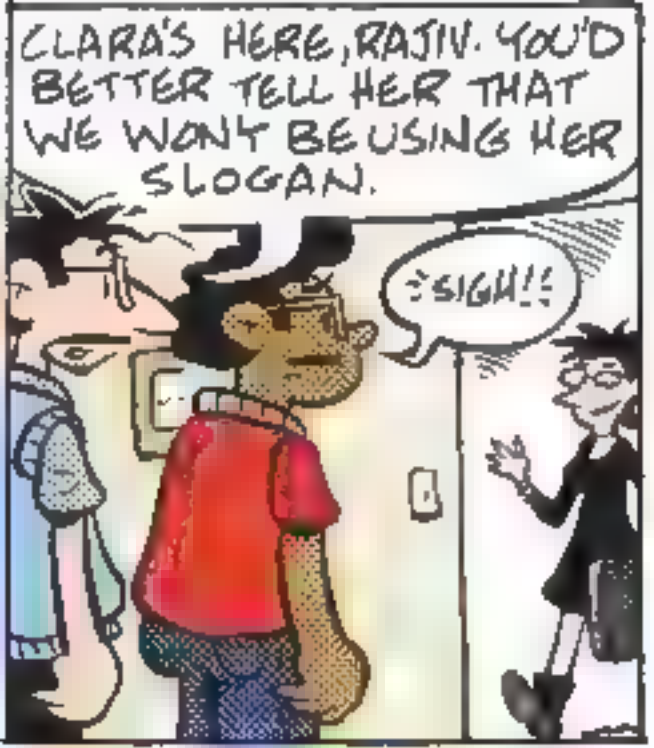

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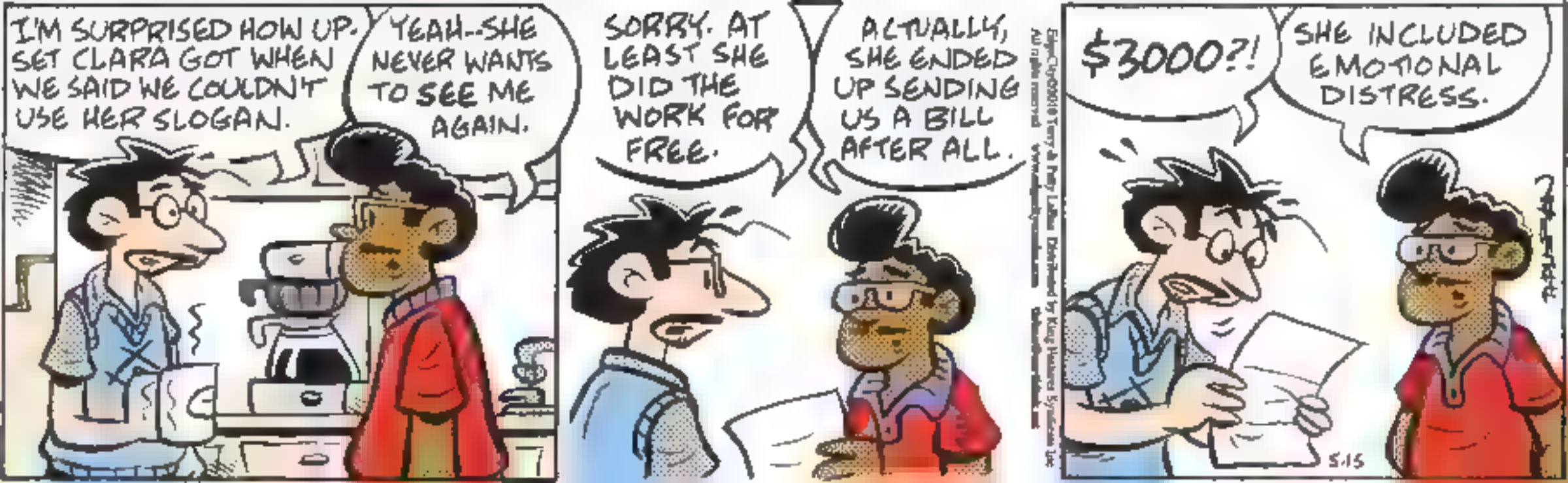
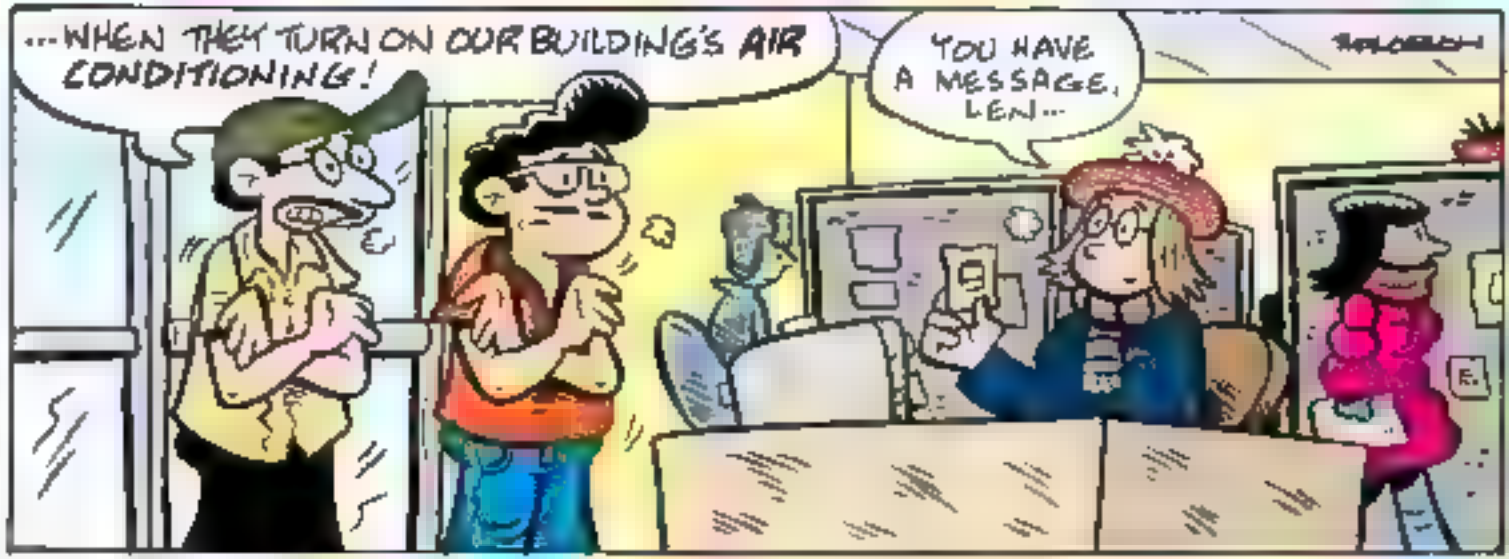

I'M SURPRISED HOW UPSET CLARA GOT WHEN WE SAID WE COULDN'T USE HER SLOGAN.
YEAH--SHE NEVER WANTS TO SEE ME AGAIN.
SORRY. AT LEAST SHE DID THE WORK FOR FREE.
ACTUALLY, SHE ENDED UP SENDING US A BILL AFTER ALL.
$3000?!
SHE INCLUDED EMOTIONAL DISTRESS.
5.15

THE WEATHER'S WARM AND THE FLOWERS ARE BLOOMING.

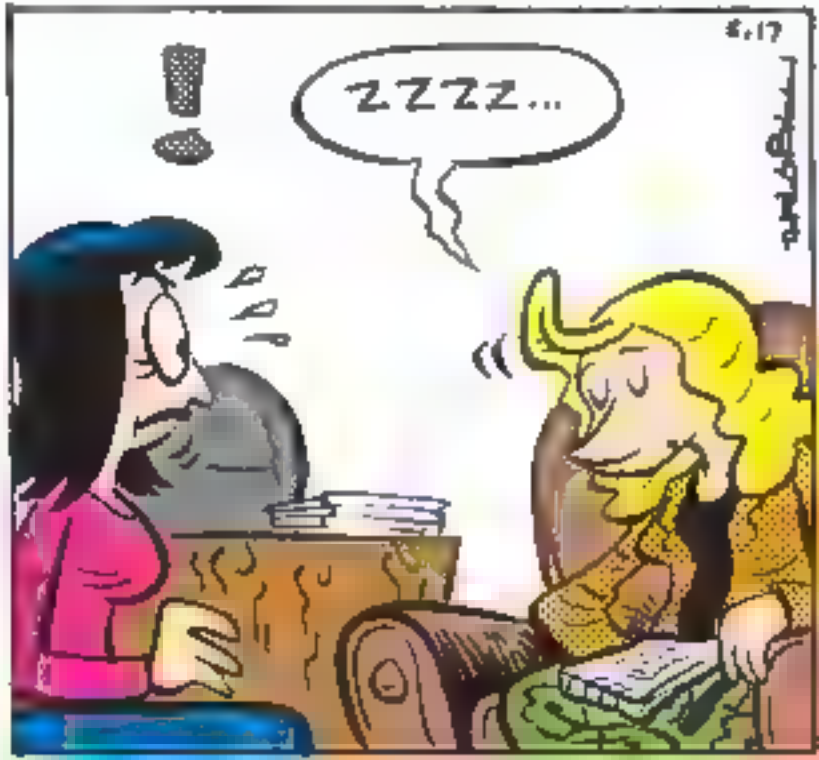
THE BIRDS ARE BUILDING NESTS AND THE TREES ARE COVERED WITH NEW LEAVES!

YEAH--BUT YOU KNOW THE SEASONS HAVE REALLY CHANGED...
5-16


...WHEN THEY TURN ON OUR BUILDING'S AIR CONDITIONING!
YOU HAVE A MESSAGE, LEN...

I FEEL LIKE NO ONE LISTENS TO ME. MY FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS -- THEY ALL TUNE ME OUT.

DO YOU THINK I'M JUST BEING PARANOID, DR. ARDIN?
DR. ARDIN?


!
ZZZZ...

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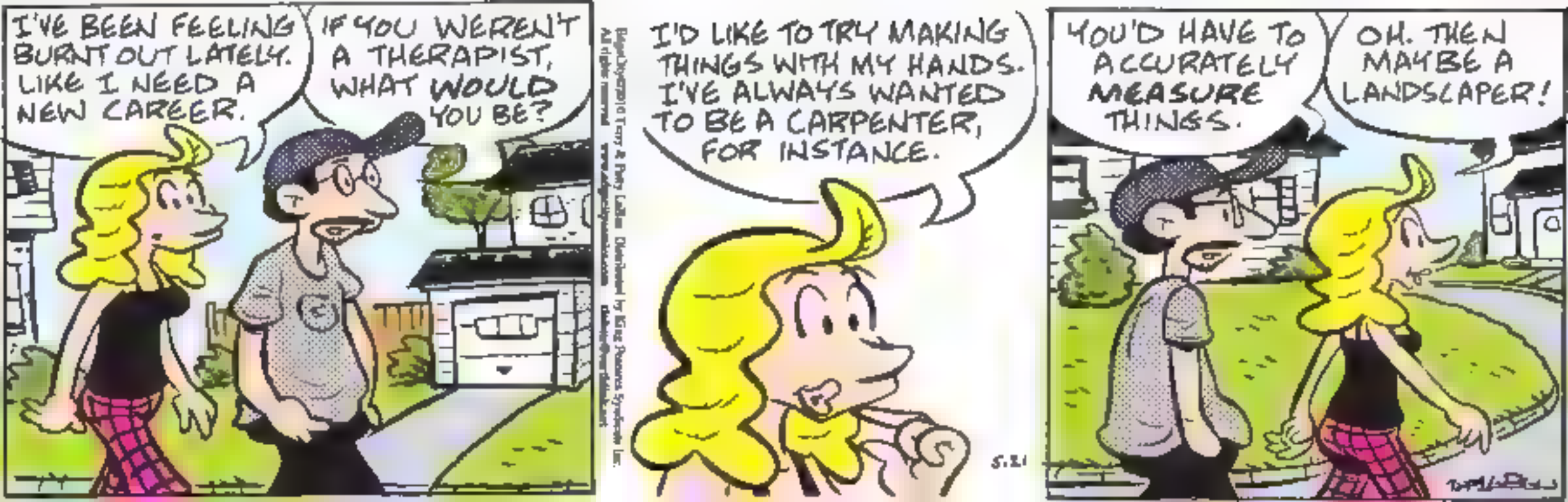
5-18

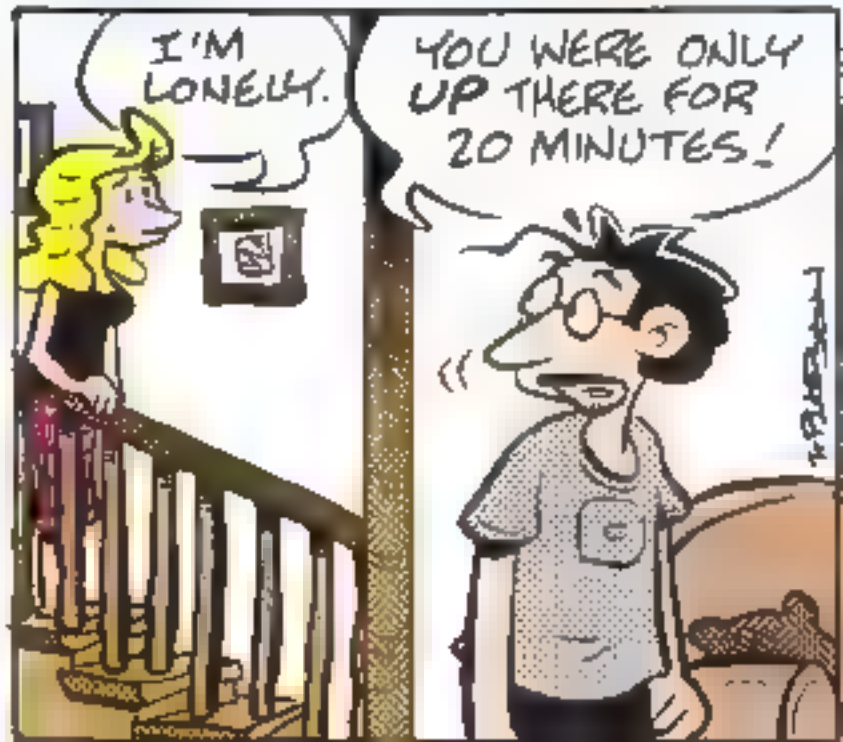
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME, JANICE. I'VE ALWAYS LOVED BEING A THERAPIST.
BUT LATELY I JUST CAN'T STAND LISTENING TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS!
MAYBE YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM BURN-OUT. YOU SHOULD GO SEE A CONSULTANT.
5.19
YUP-- LOOKS LIKE A CLASSIC CASE OF BURN-OUT TO ME.

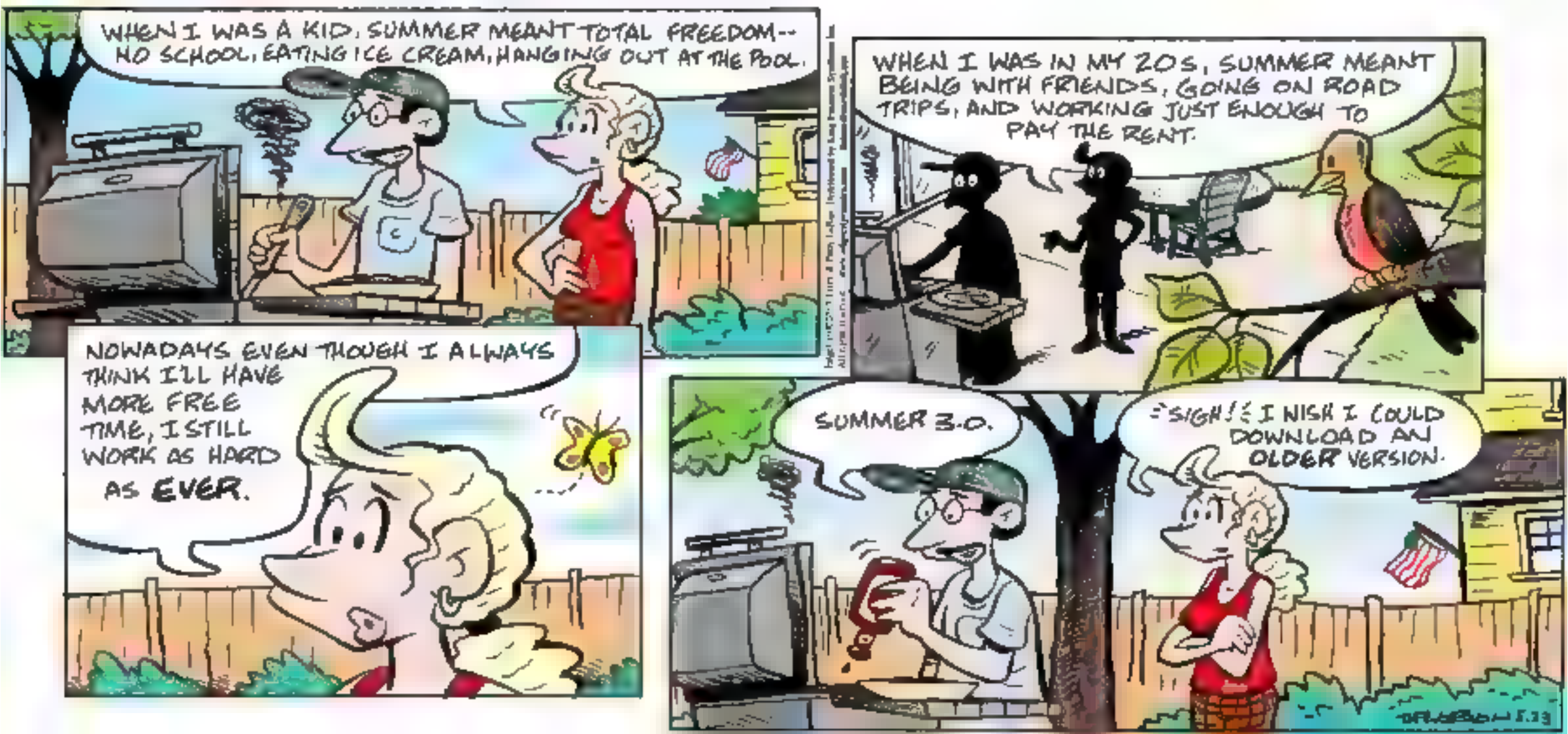
I'VE BEEN FEELING BURNT OUT AS A THERAPIST LATELY.
MAYBE YOU NEED A VACATION.
I THINK MAYBE I NEED A NEW CAREER.
HMM... ARE THERE OTHER THINGS YOU'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO?
BE A MOVIE STAR.
OK--THAT'S A START...

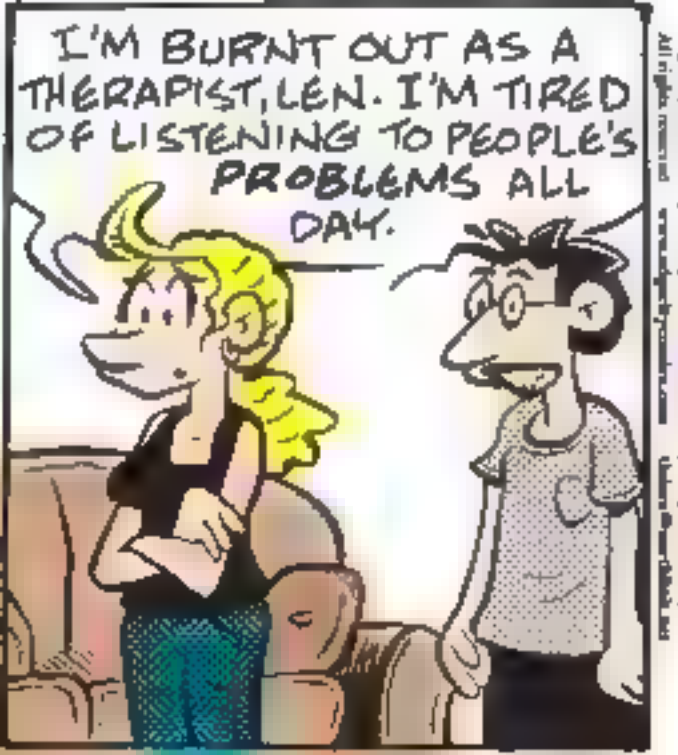

I'VE BEEN FEELING BURNT OUT LATELY. LIKE I NEED A NEW CAREER.
IF YOU WEREN'T A THERAPIST, WHAT WOULD YOU BE?
I'D LIKE TO TRY MAKING THINGS WITH MY HANDS. I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A CARPENTER, FOR INSTANCE.
YOU'D HAVE TO ACCURATELY MEASURE THINGS.
OH. THEN MAYBE A LANDSCAPER!

I'M BURNT OUT ON BEING A THERAPIST. I NEED A JOB WHERE I DON'T HAVE TO INTERACT WITH PEOPLE ALL DAY.

I WANT TO START A WEB-BASED BUSINESS. SOMETHING I CAN DO BY MYSELF AT HOME.
5.22


I'M LONELY.
YOU WERE ONLY UP THERE FOR 20 MINUTES!


WHEN I WAS A KID, SUMMER MEANT TOTAL FREEDOM-- NO SCHOOL, EATING ICE CREAM, HANGING OUT AT THE POOL.
WHEN I WAS IN MY 20S, SUMMER MEANT BEING WITH FRIENDS, GOING ON ROAD TRIPS, AND WORKING JUST ENOUGH TO PAY THE RENT.
NOWADAYS EVEN THOUGH I ALWAYS THINK I'LL HAVE MORE FREE TIME, I STILL WORK AS HARD AS EVER.
SUMMER 3.0.
SIGH! I WISH I COULD DOWNLOAD AN OLDER VERSION.

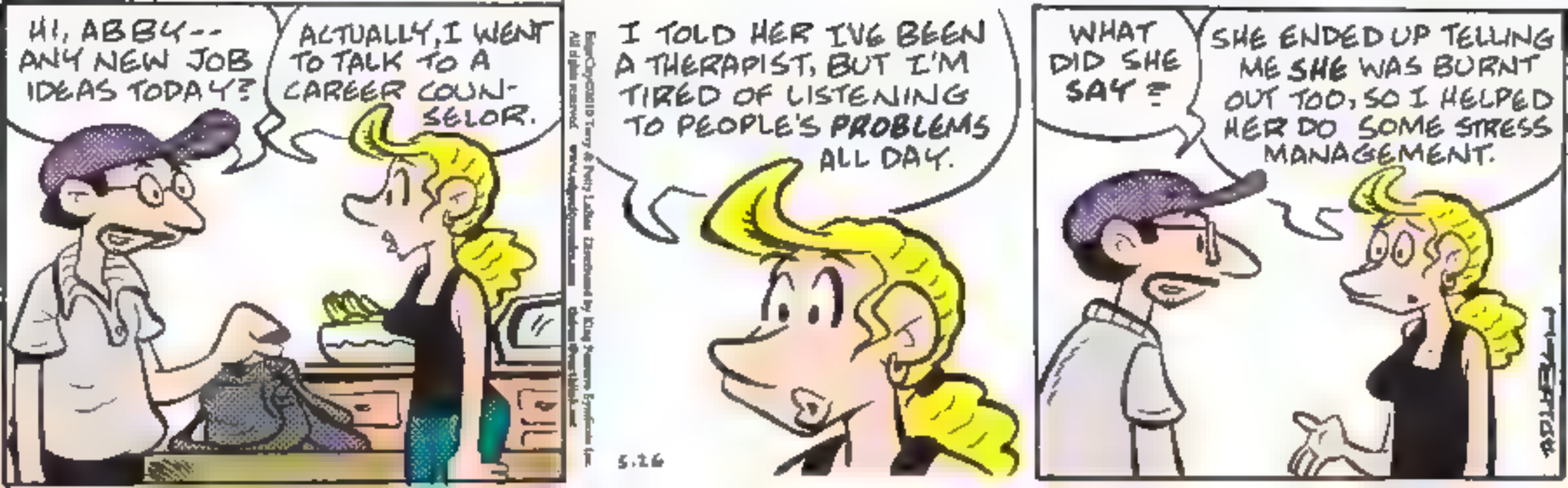

I'M BURNT OUT AS A THERAPIST, LEN. I'M TIRED OF LISTENING TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS ALL DAY.

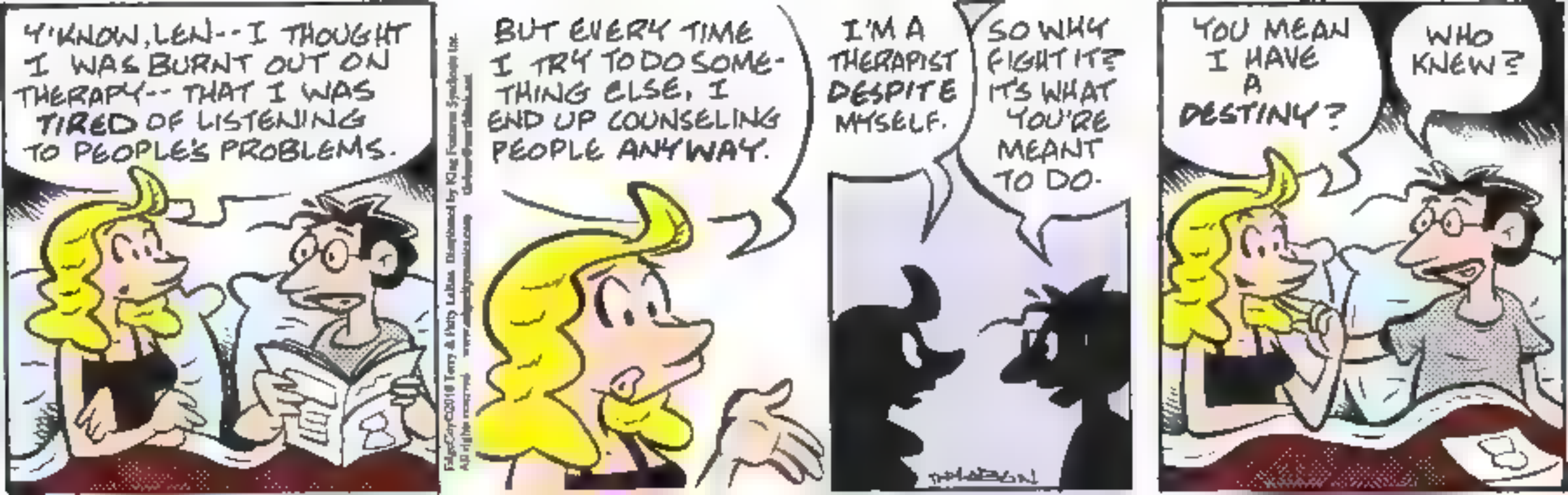
I WANT TO WORK WITH MY HANDS. BE A LANDSCAPER OR SOMETHING.
WELL, I'M ABOUT TO DO SOME YARD WORK.

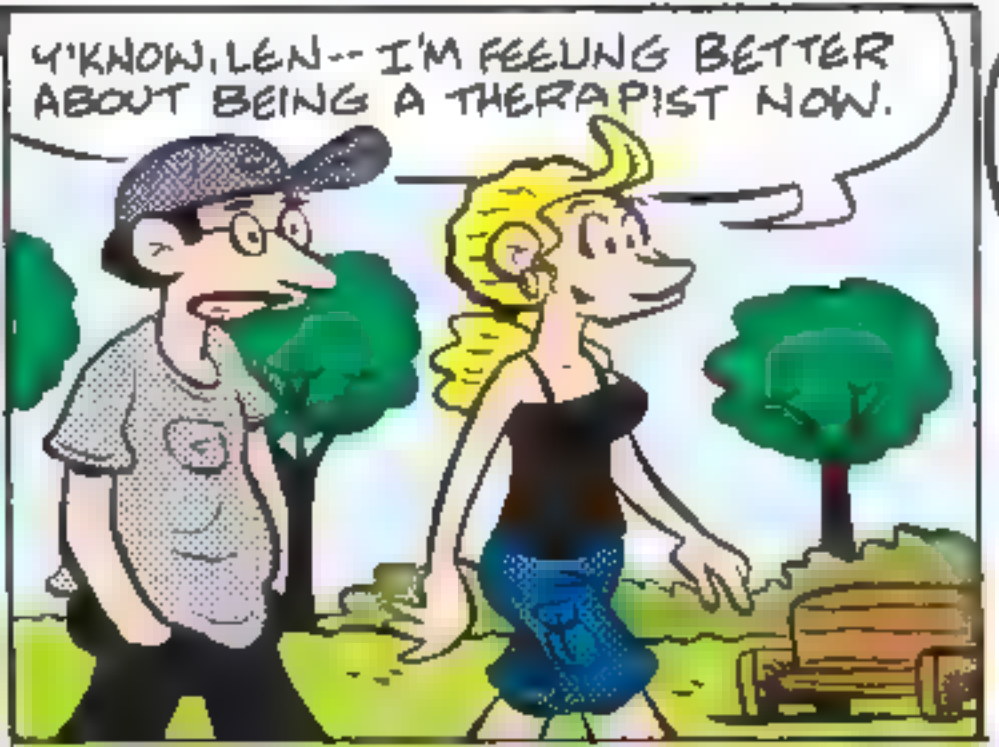
WHY DON'T YOU HELP ME FOR A WHILE? SEE HOW YOU LIKE IT?
5.24

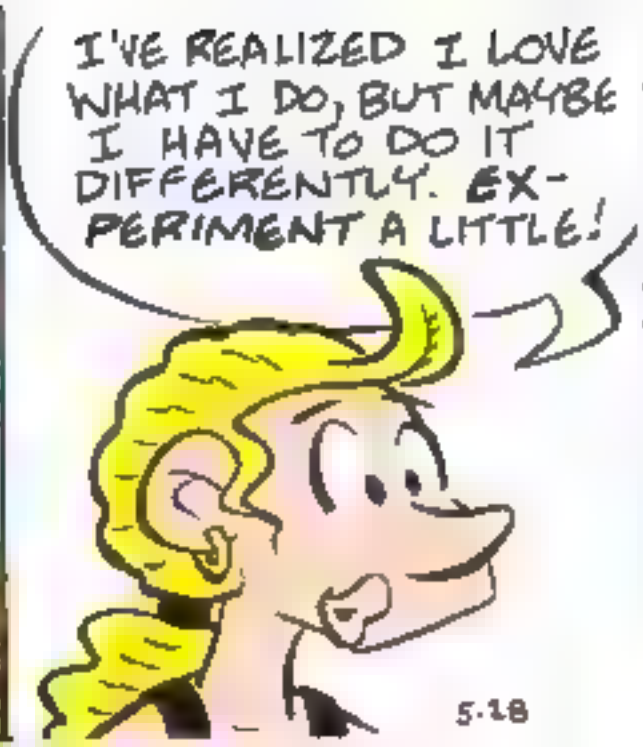
ABBY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST TALKING TO MIKE HERE ABOUT HIS TROUBLES WITH HIS EX.

MAYBE I WON'T BE A LANDSCAPER. BUT I'D STILL LIKE A JOB WHERE I WON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS ALL DAY.
5-25
DON'T YOU HAVE A FRIEND WHO OWNS A COFFEE SHOP?
BETH...YEAH! MAYBE SHE NEEDS A BARISTA!
YOUR SON'S DROPPING OUT OF COLLEGE? HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?
ABBY! THERE'S A LINE!


HI, ABBY-- ANY NEW JOB IDEAS TODAY?
ACTUALLY, I WENT TO TALK TO A CAREER COUN-SELOR.
I TOLD HER I'VE BEEN A THERAPIST, BUT I'M TIRED OF LISTENING TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS ALL DAY.
5.26
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
SHE ENDED UP TELLING ME SHE WAS BURNT OUT TOO, SO I HELPED HER DO SOME STRESS MANAGEMENT.


Y'KNOW, LEN--I THOUGHT I WAS BURNT OUT ON THERAPY--THAT I WAS TIRED OF LISTENING TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS.
BUT EVERY TIME I TRY TO DO SOMETHING ELSE, I END UP COUNSELING PEOPLE ANYWAY.
I'M A THERAPIST DESPITE MYSELF.
SO WHY FIGHT IT? IT'S WHAT YOU'RE MEANT TO DO.
YOU MEAN I HAVE A DESTINY?
WHO KNEW?





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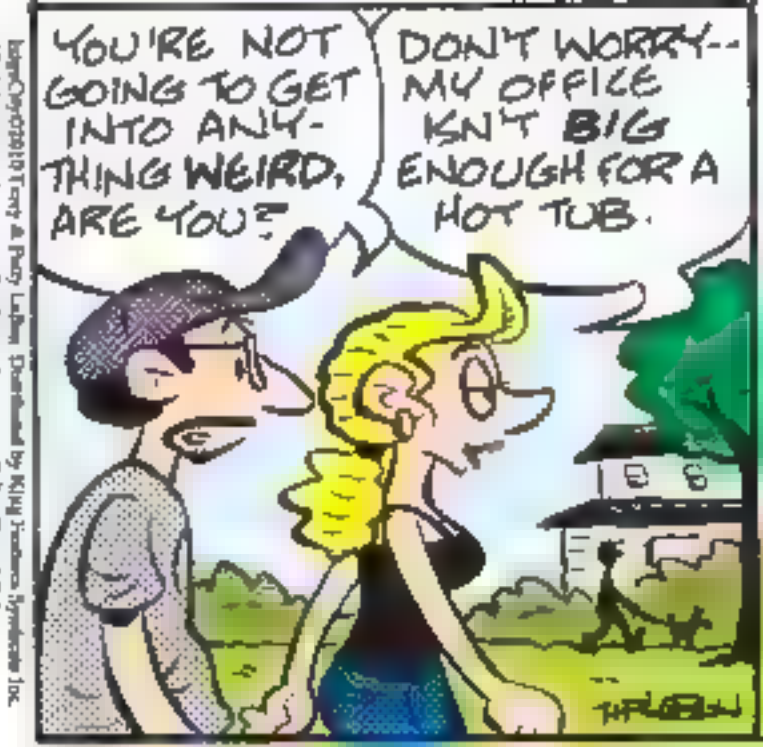

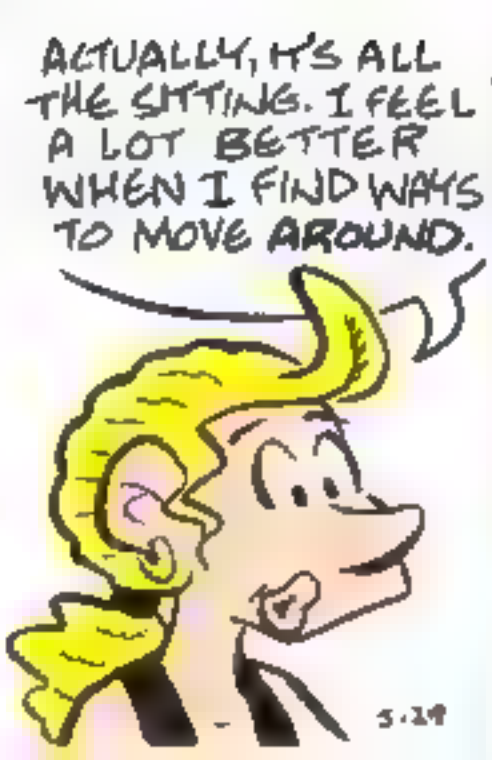

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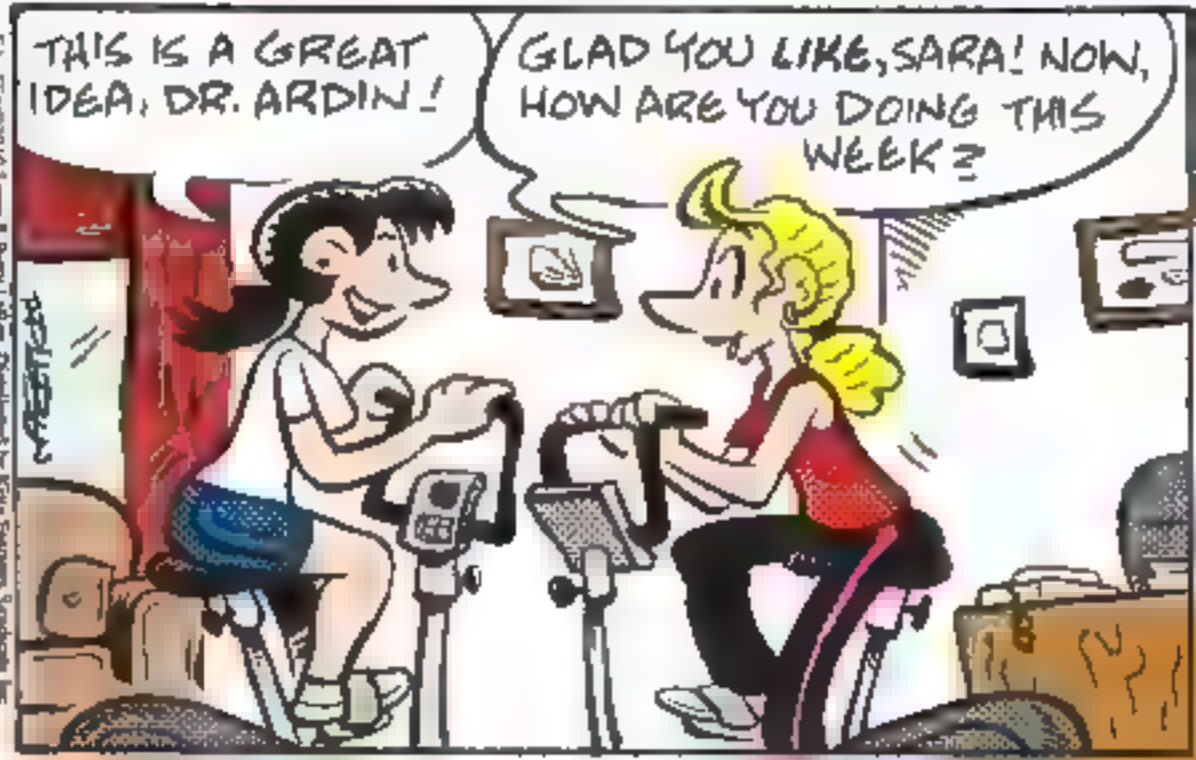
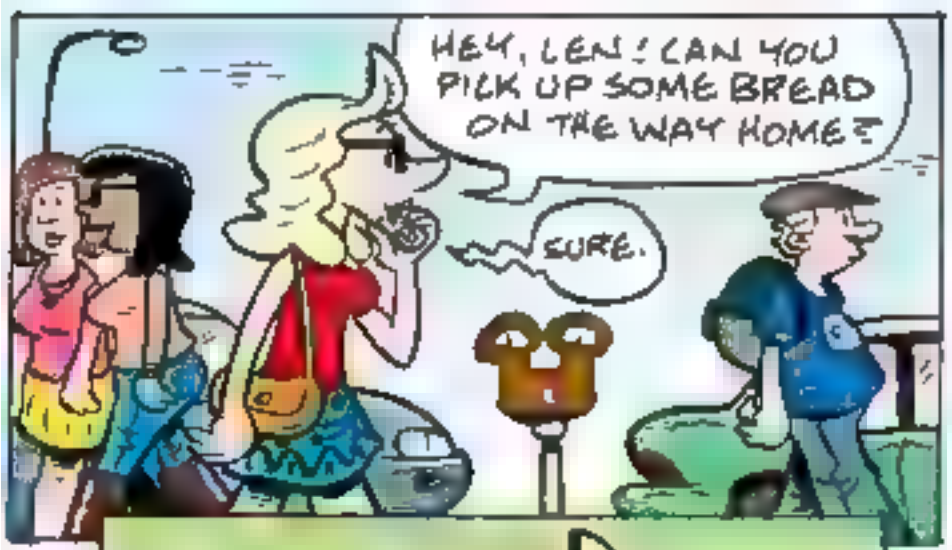
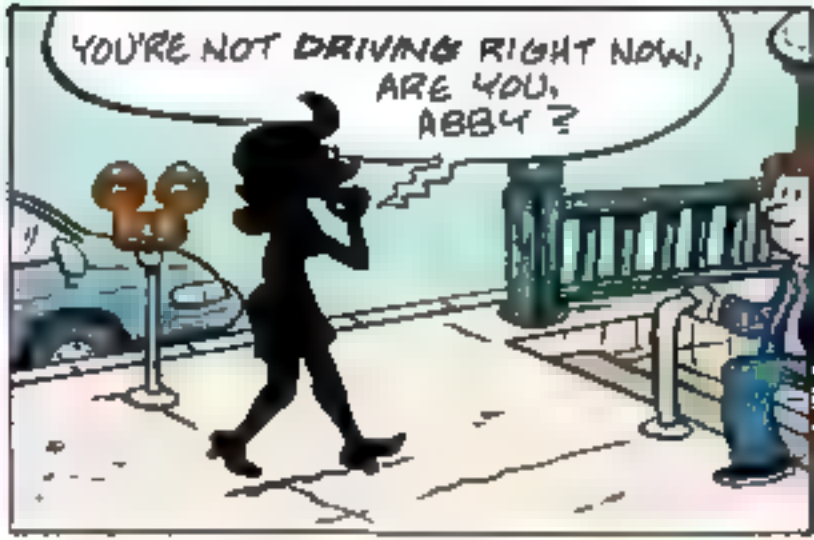
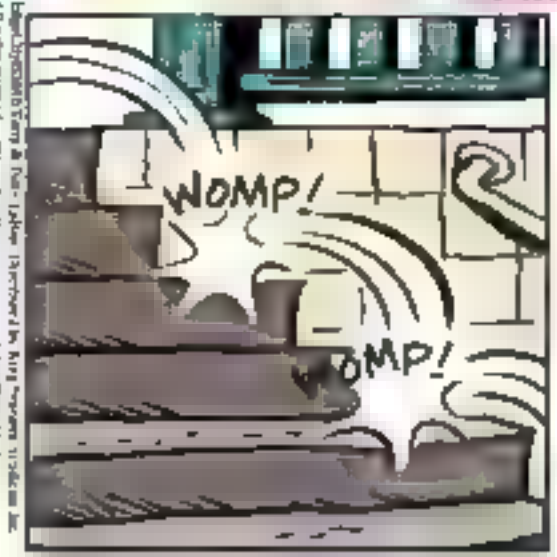



HEY, LEN! CAN YOU PICK UP SOME BREAD ON THE WAY HOME?
SURE.

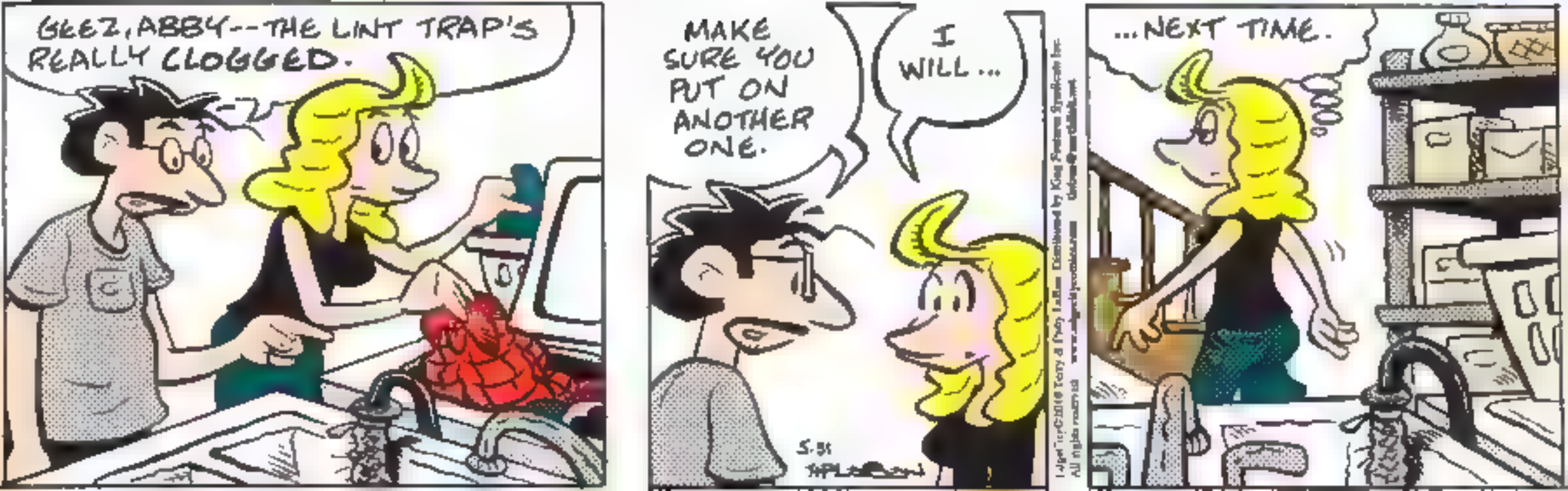
Y'KNOW, THERE'S A LAW NOW AGAINST TALKING ON YOUR CELL WHILE DRIVING 'CUZ IT'S SO DISTRACTING.

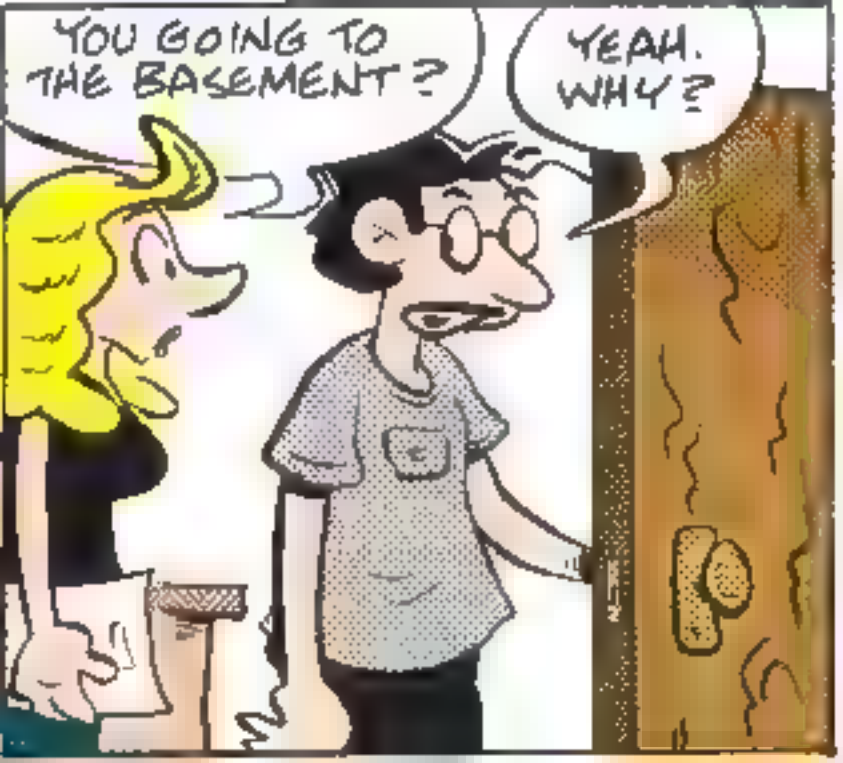

YOU'RE NOT DRIVING RIGHT NOW, ARE YOU, ABBY?

WHOOPS!


WOMP!
WOMP!

NO.
MA'AM, ARE YOU OK?
5-30

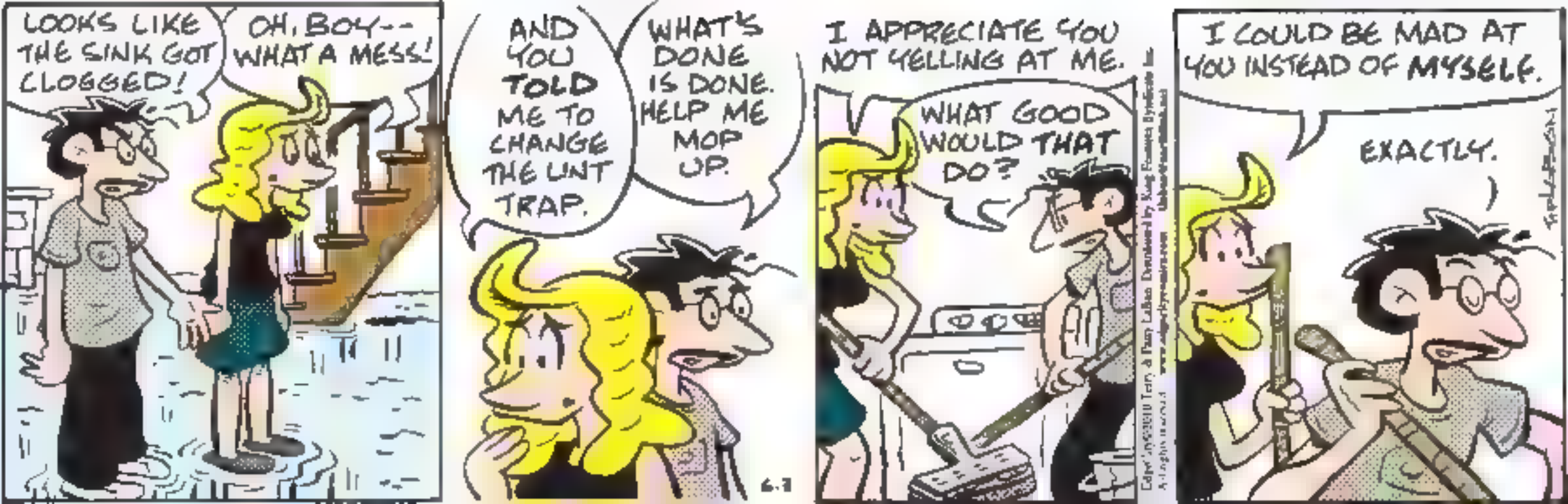

GEEZ, ABBY--THE LINT TRAP'S REALLY CLOGGED.
MAKE SURE YOU PUT ON ANOTHER ONE.
I WILL...
...NEXT TIME.

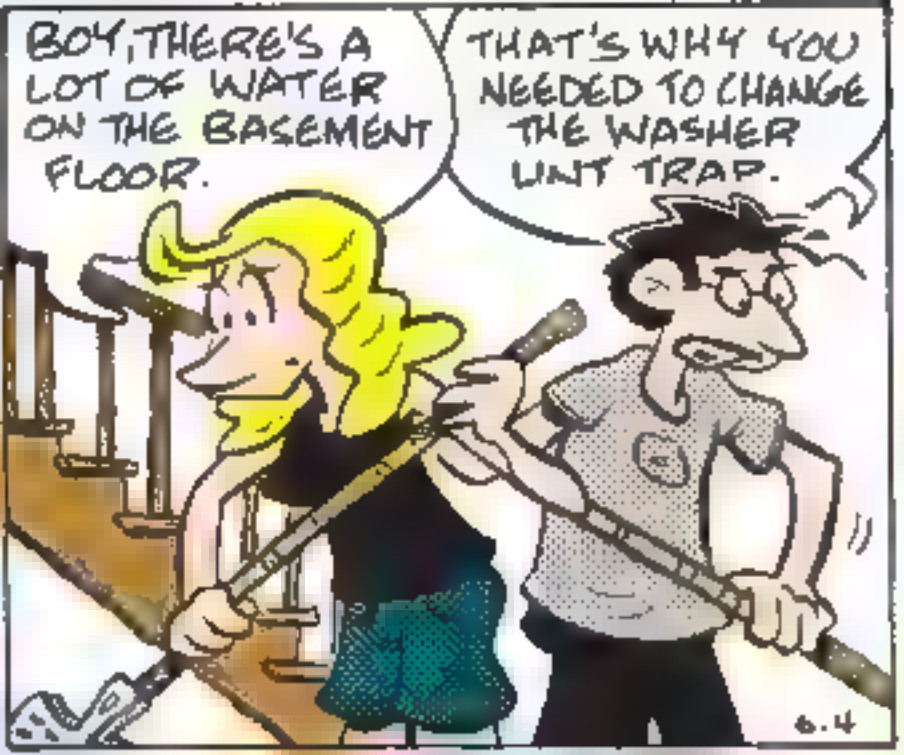

YOU GOING TO THE BASEMENT?
YEAH. WHY?

IF THE CLOTHES ARE DONE, COULD YOU PUT THEM IN THE DRYER?
SURE.

SPLASH!
☆◎#!

LEN, WHAT'S WRONG?
THERE'S AN INCH OF WATER ON THE BASEMENT FLOOR!
DID YOU PUT A NEW LINT TRAP ON THE WASHER LIKE I ASKED YOU TO?
OOPS!
ACTUALLY, I ALREADY KNEW THAT.


LOOKS LIKE THE SINK GOT CLOGGED!
OH, BOY-- WHAT A MESS!
AND YOU TOLD ME TO CHANGE THE LINT TRAP.
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE. HELP ME MOP UP.
I APPRECIATE YOU NOT YELLING AT ME.
WHAT GOOD WOULD THAT DO?
I COULD BE MAD AT YOU INSTEAD OF MYSELF.
EXACTLY.

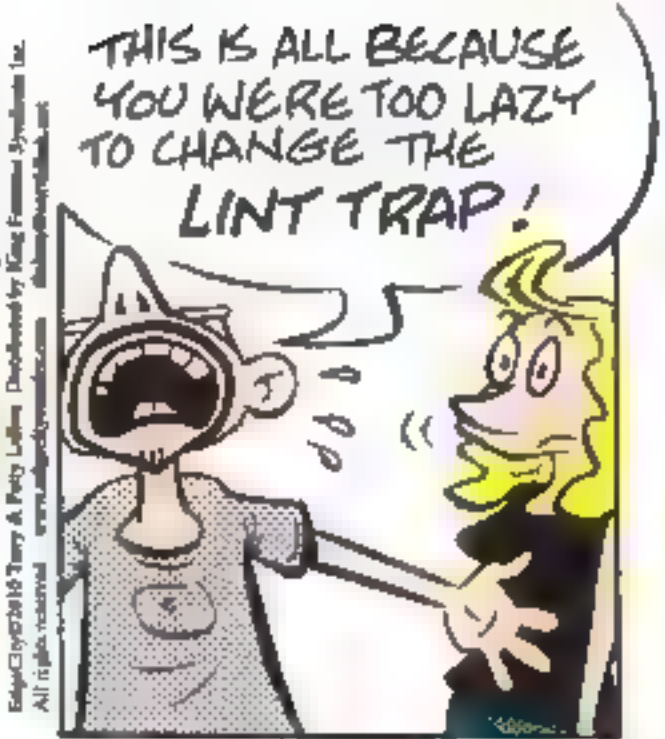

BOY, THERE'S A LOT OF WATER ON THE BASEMENT FLOOR.
THAT'S WHY YOU NEEDED TO CHANGE THE WASHER LINT TRAP.

I APPRECIATE YOU BEING SO CALM ABOUT THIS.
WELL, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYTHING VALUABLE GOT RUINED.

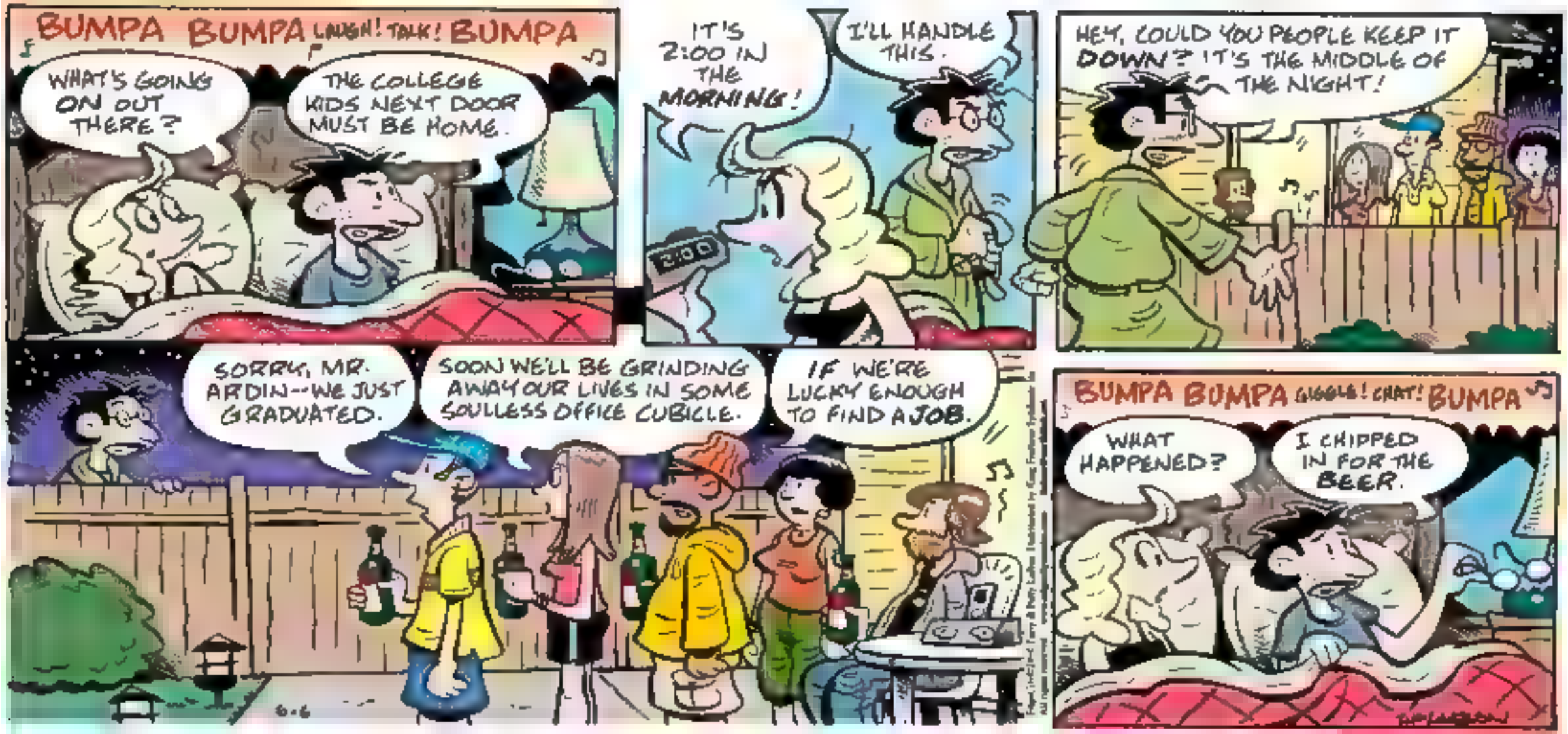
EXCEPT... ULP! ...MY 'ZINE COLLECTION!

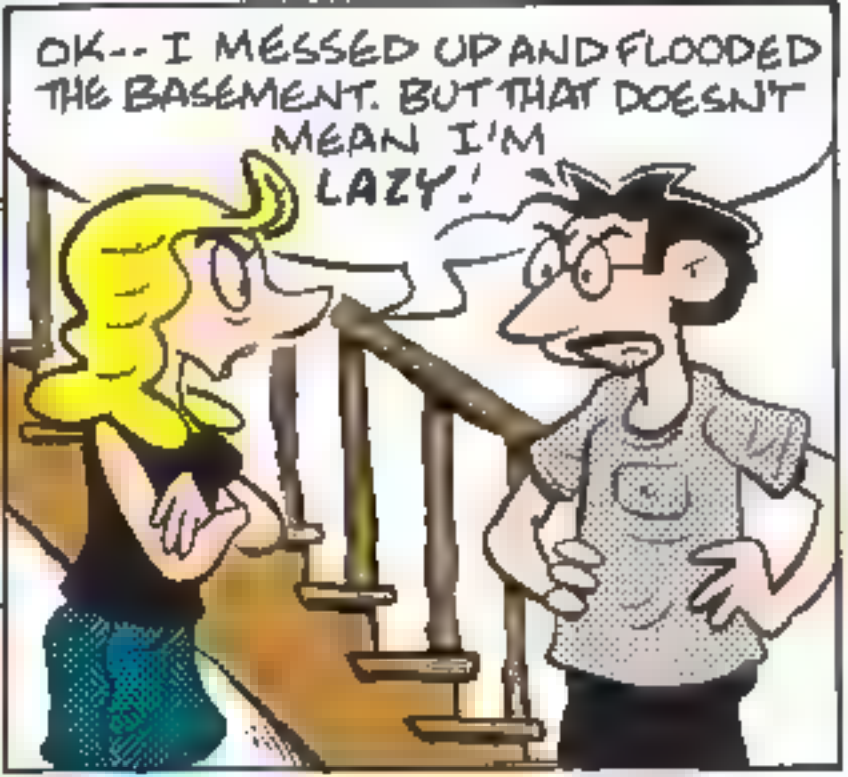
THE BOX WITH ALL THE ZINES I COLLECTED IN MY PUNK DAYS-- IT'S SOAKED!

THESE THINGS ARE AN IRREPLACEABLE PART OF MY HISTORY.. AND NOW THEY'RE RUINED!
PUNK


THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO LAZY TO CHANGE THE LINT TRAP!

LAZY?!
IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?


BUMPA BUMPA LAUGH! TALK! BUMPA
WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?
THE COLLEGE KIDS NEXT DOOR MUST BE HOME.
IT'S 2:00 IN THE MORNING!
I'LL HANDLE THIS.
HEY, COULD YOU PEOPLE KEEP IT DOWN? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!
SORRY, MR. ARDIN--WE JUST GRADUATED.
SOON WE'LL BE GRINDING AWAY OUR LIVES IN SOME SOULLESS OFFICE CUBICLE.
IF WE'RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO FIND A JOB.
BUMPA BUMPA GIGGLE! CHAT! BUMPA
WHAT HAPPENED?
I CHIPPED IN FOR THE BEER.



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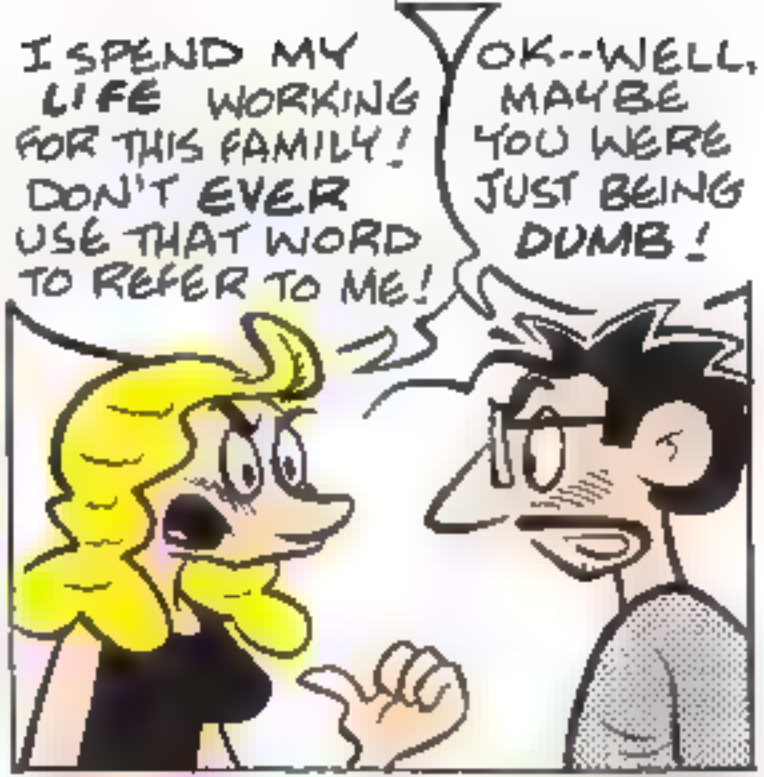
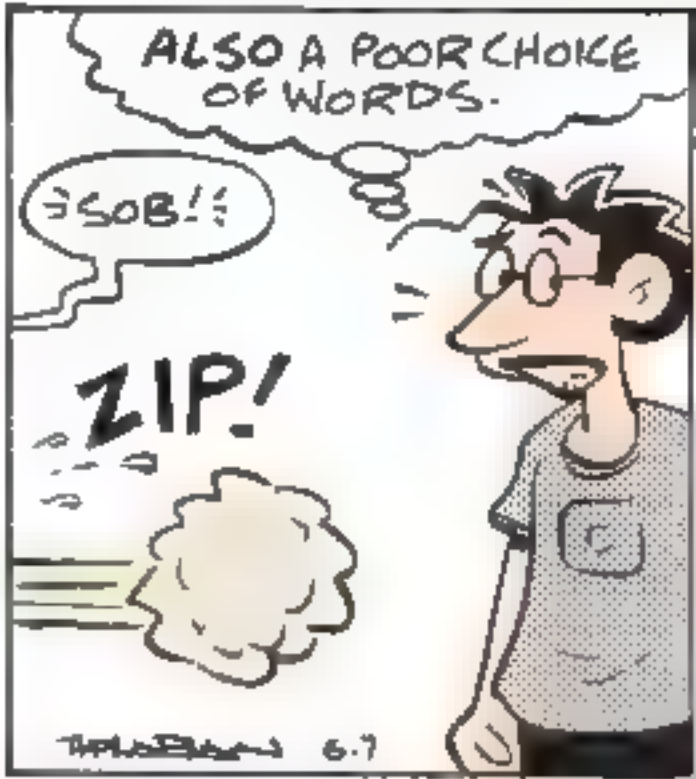
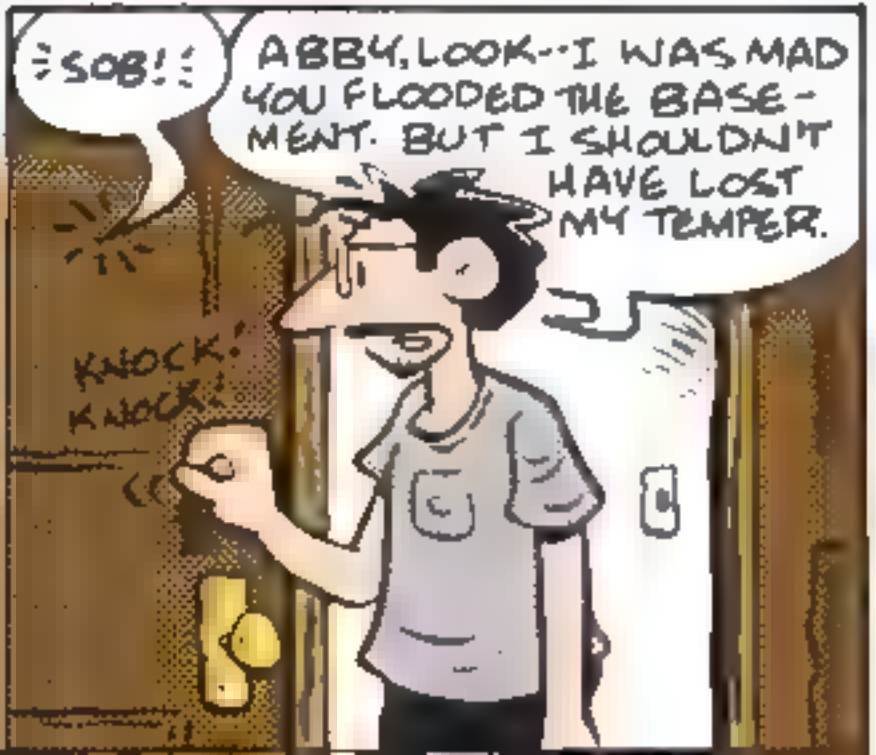
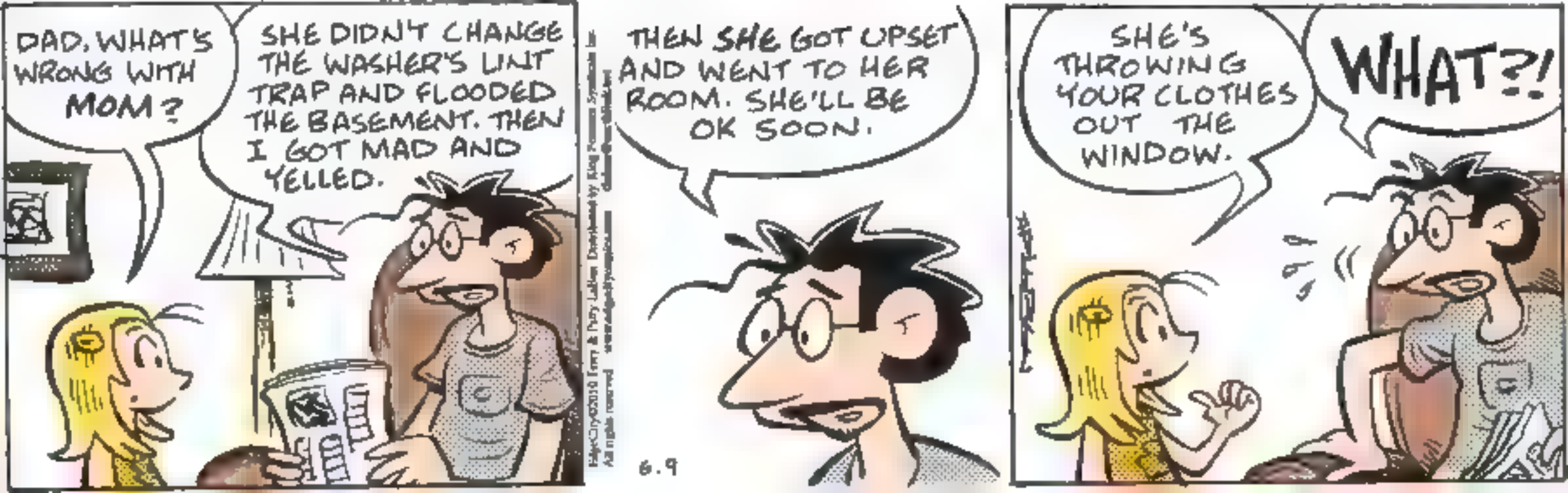





SOB!
ABBY, LOOK--I WAS MAD YOU FLOODED THE BASEMENT. BUT I SHOULDN'T HAVE LOST MY TEMPER.
KNOCK! KNOCK!

WE NEED TO CALM DOWN AND ACT LIKE ADULTS. CAN'T WE JUST TALK FOR A MINUTE?

TALK TO THE DOOR.
THIS IS BAD.



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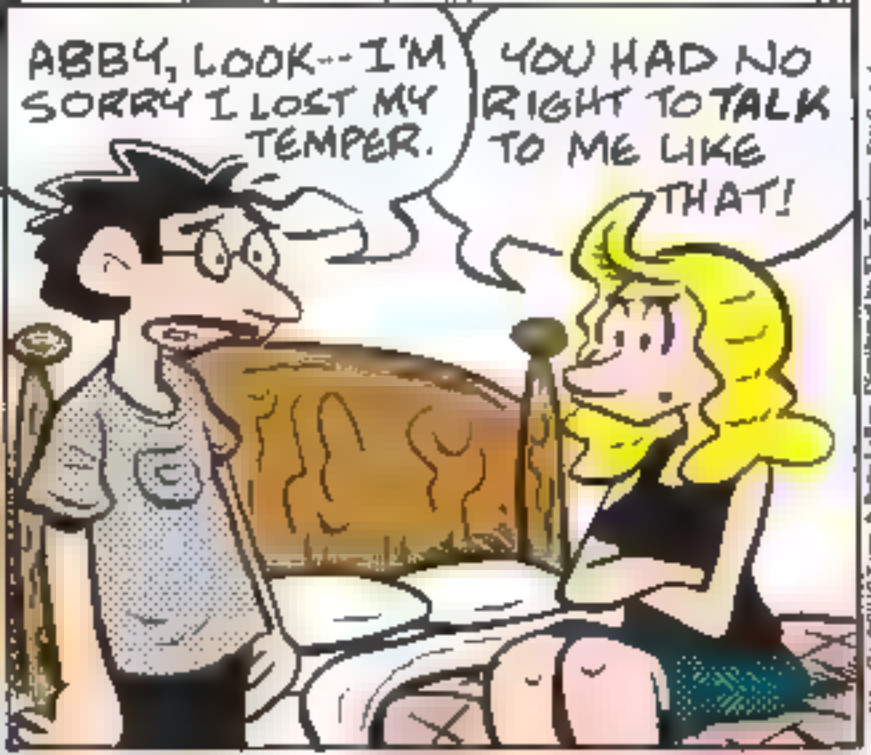
6.9

ABBY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I DON'T WANNA LIVE WITH SOMEONE WHO YELLS AT ME!
LOOK, WE WERE BOTH WRONG! ANYHOW, THIS ISN'T THE WAY TO DEAL WITH IT!
WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBORS THINK?
THAT I MARRIED AN @☆#!
THEY ALREADY KNEW THAT.
SNICKER!
OK-- I'M CALMING DOWN...
6-10



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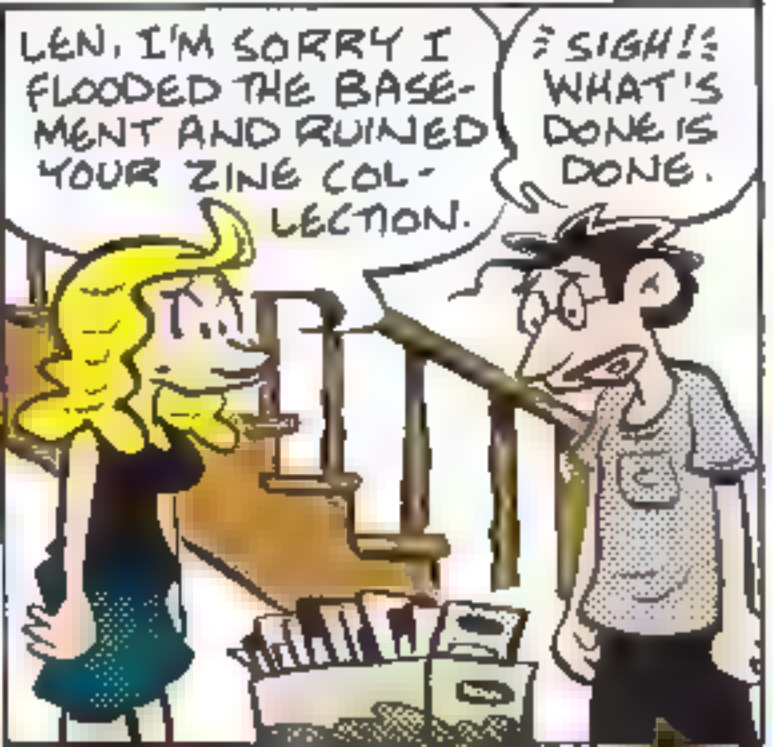

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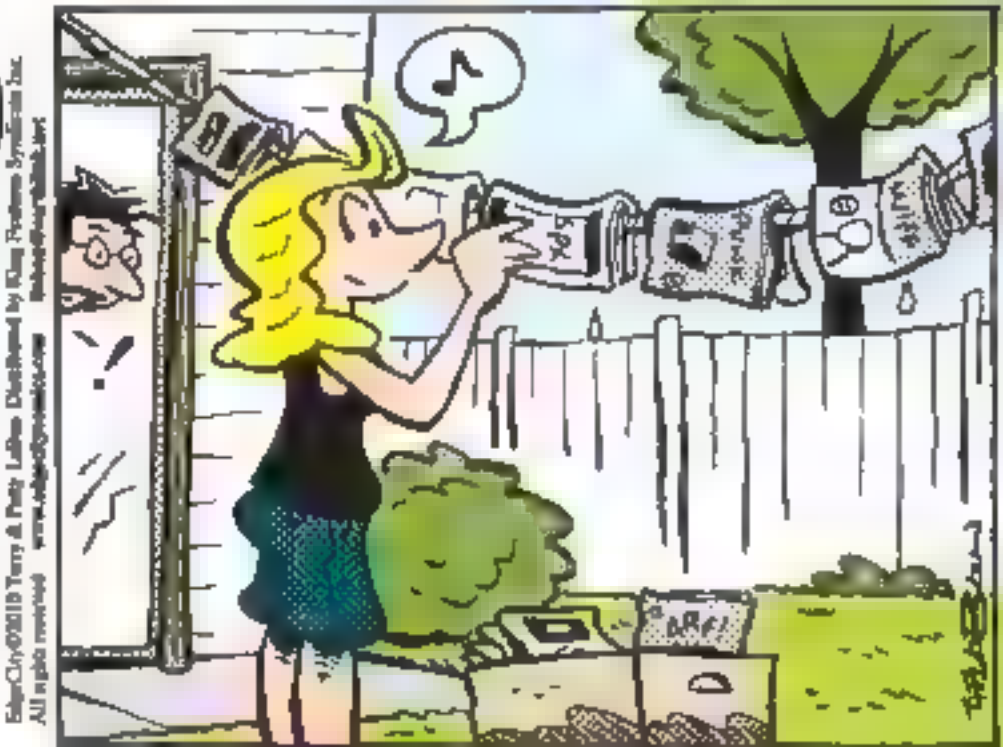
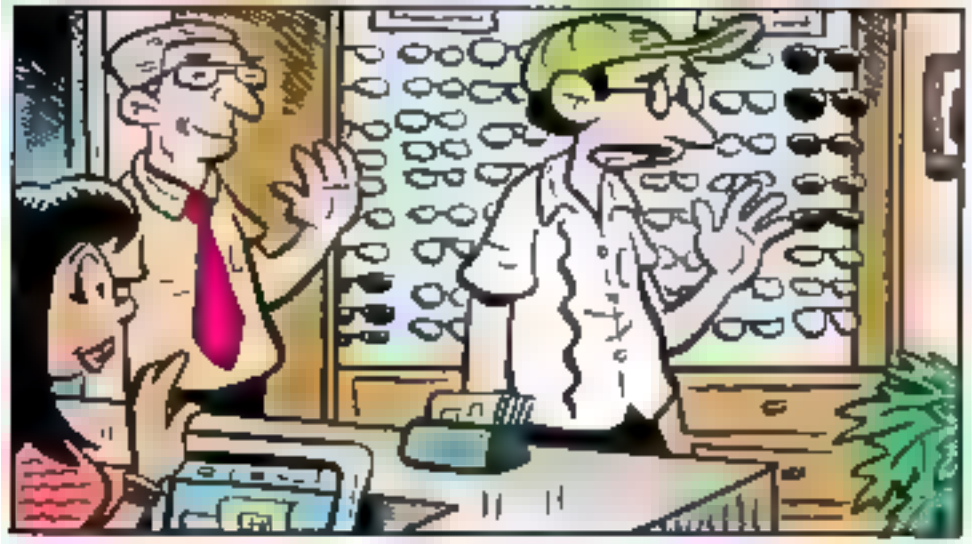
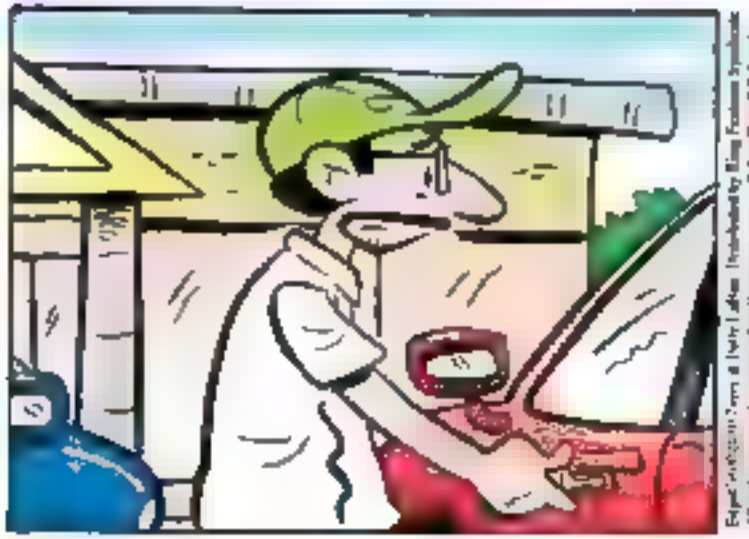
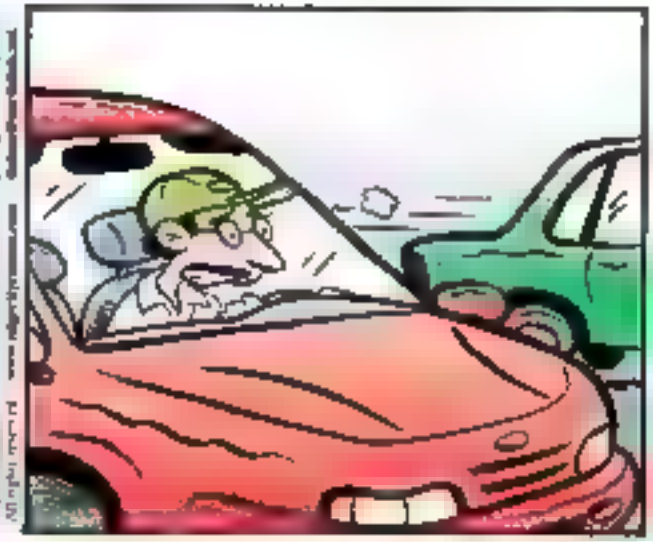
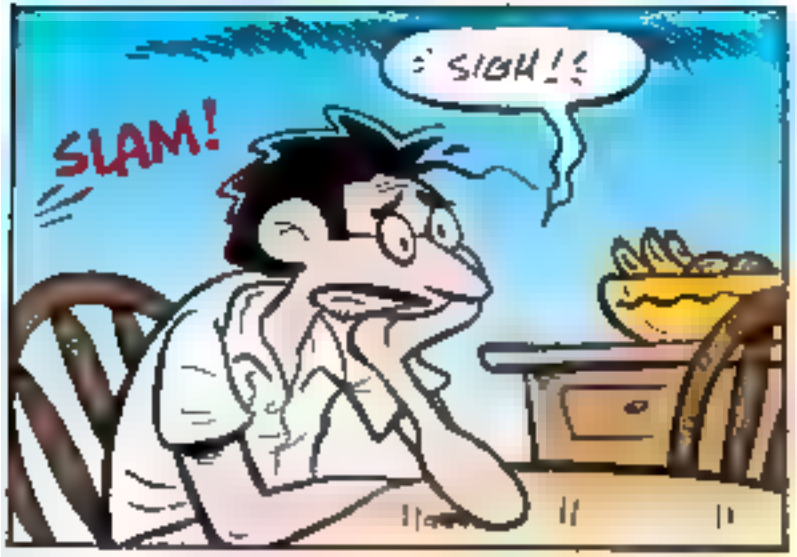


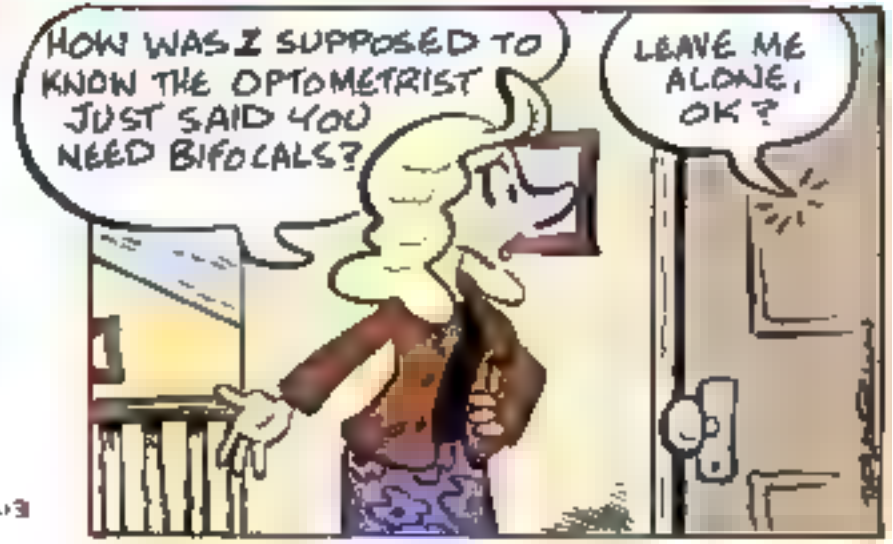






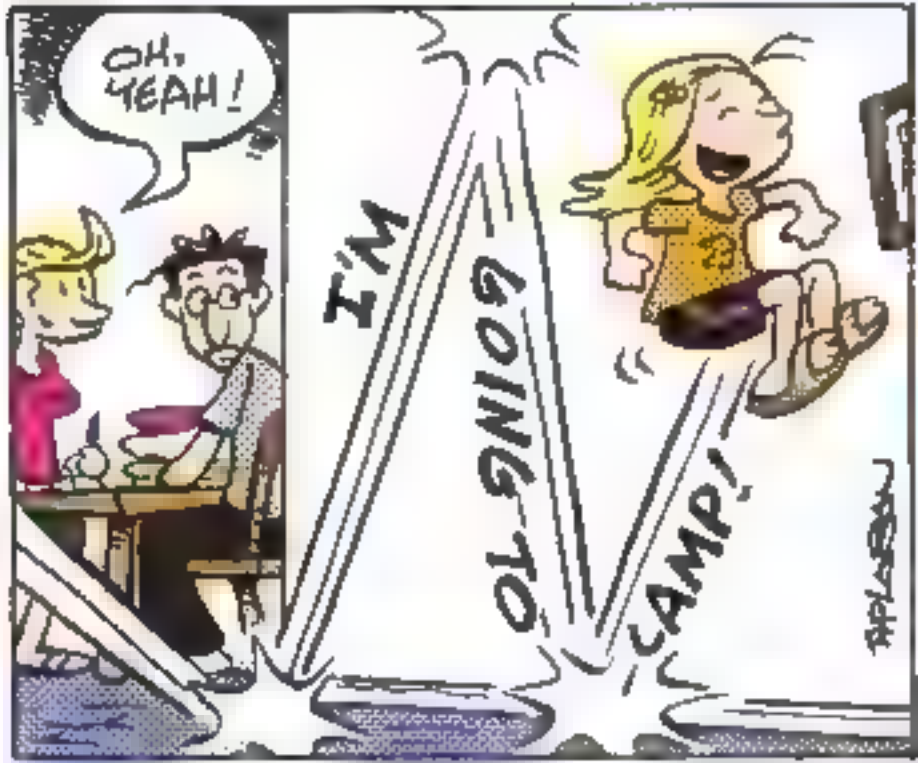

SIGH!!
SLAM!

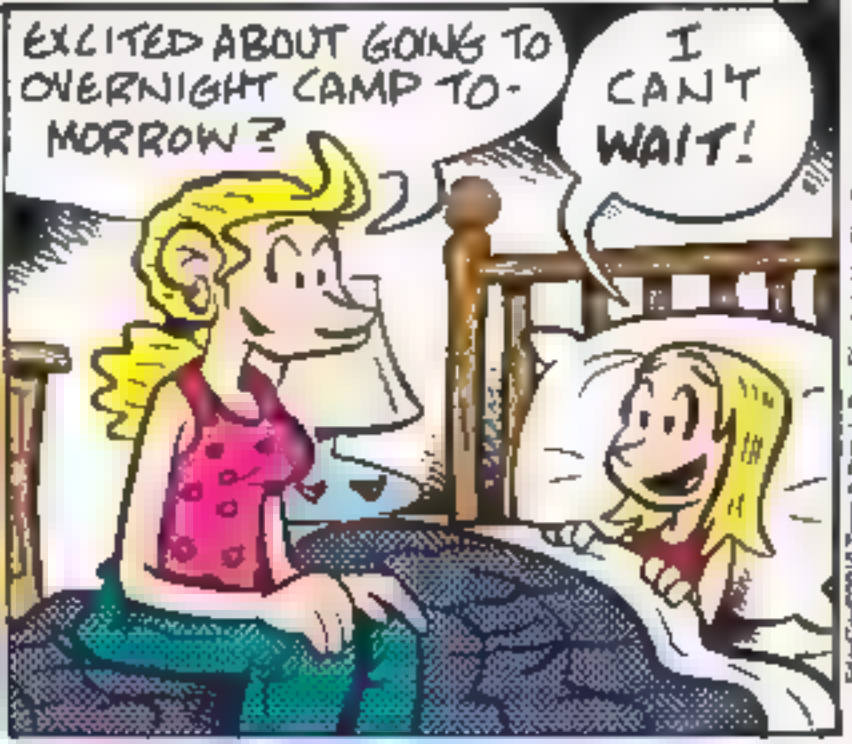
HI, SWEETIE! HOW'S MY OLD MAN?


HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THE OPTOMETRIST JUST SAID YOU NEED BIFOCALS?
LEAVE ME ALONE, OK?

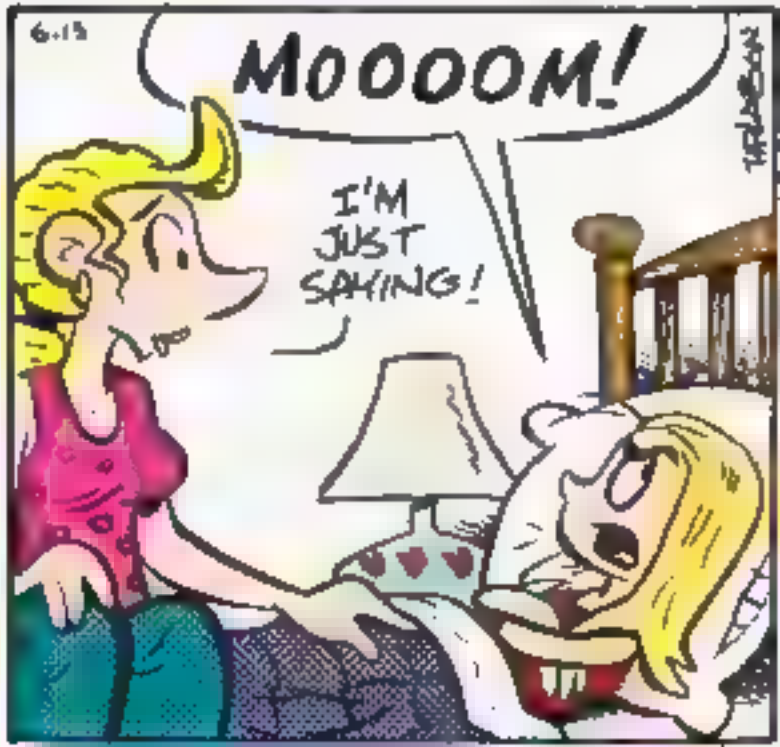
WE'RE ALMOST DONE LABELING CARLY'S CAMP STUFF.
WHEW! IT'S A BIG JOB!

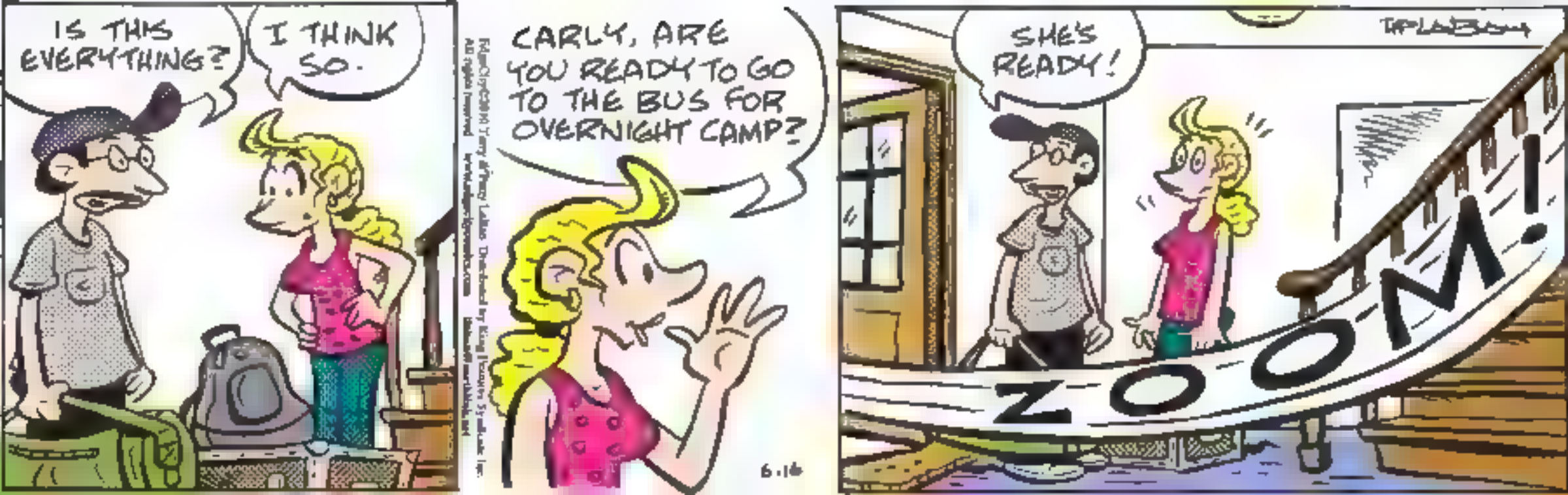
I MUST ADMIT--I HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT SENDING MY YOUNGEST AWAY FOR 2 WEEKS.
IS CARLY STILL EXCITED?
6-14

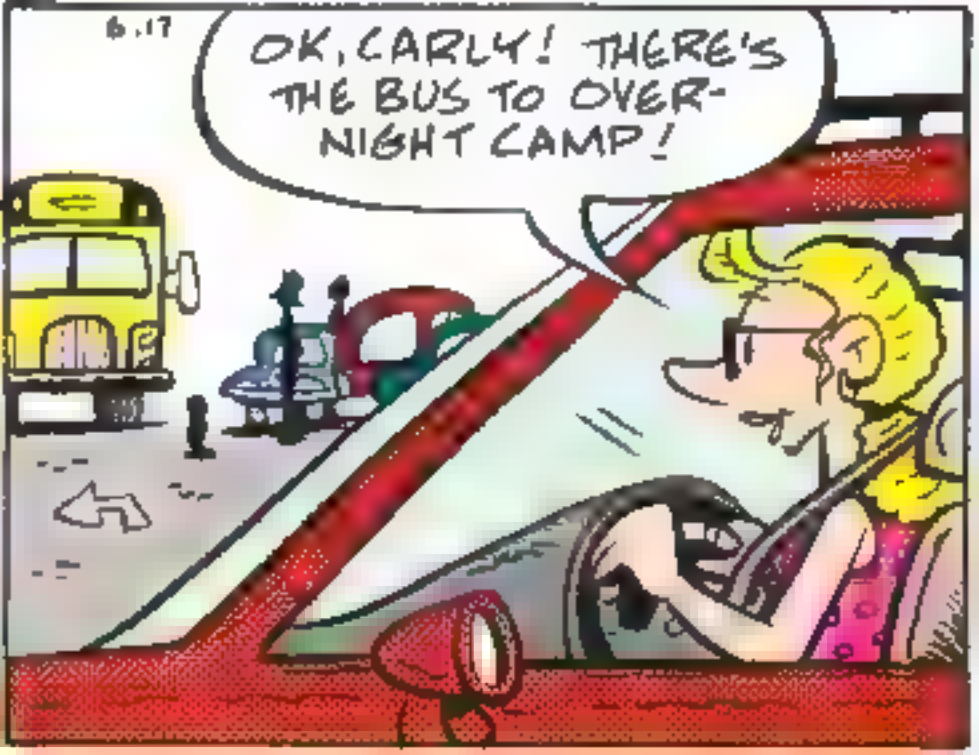

OH, YEAH!
I'M GOING TO CAMP!

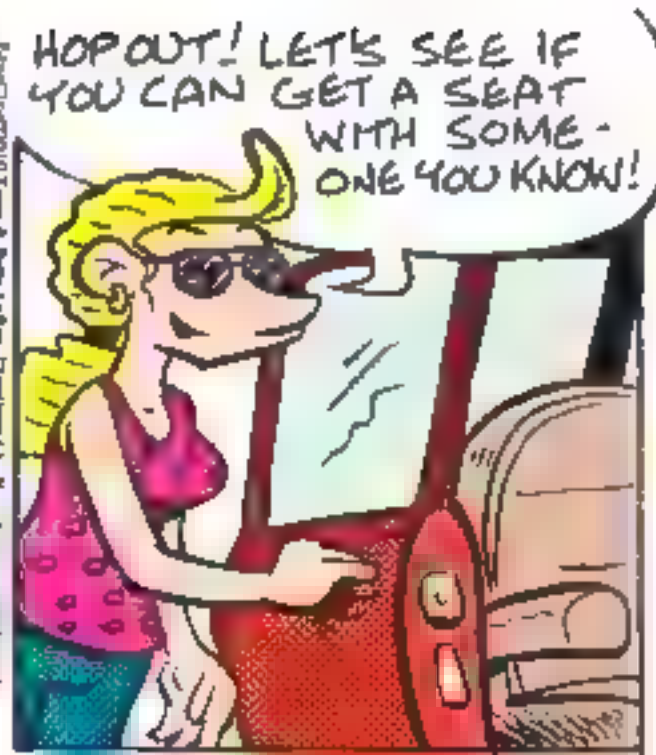

EXCITED ABOUT GOING TO OVERNIGHT CAMP TOMORROW?
I CAN'T WAIT!

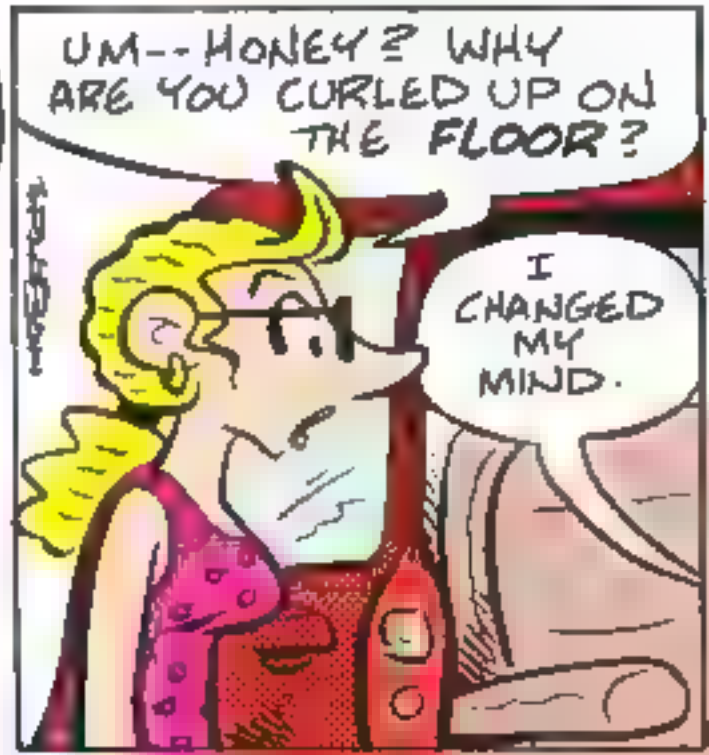
I'M GLAD. BUT REMEMBER-- IF YOU DO HAPPEN TO GET HOMESICK, WE'RE NOT FAR AWAY.


MOOOOM!
I'M JUST SAYING!


IS THIS EVERYTHING?
I THINK SO.
CARLY, ARE YOU READY TO GO TO THE BUS FOR OVERNIGHT CAMP?
6-16
SHE'S READY!
ZOOM!







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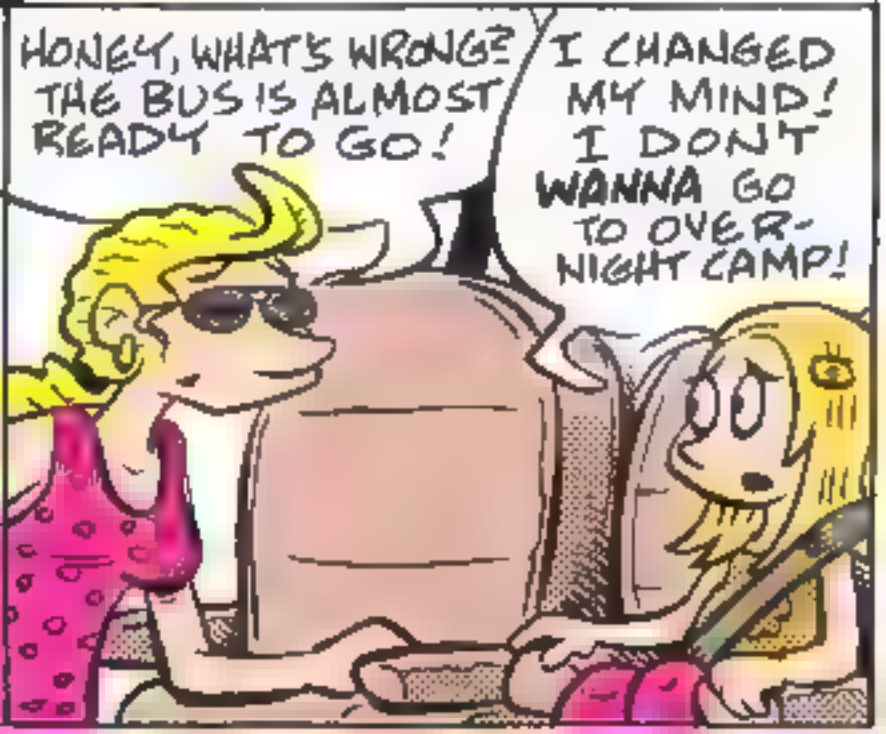

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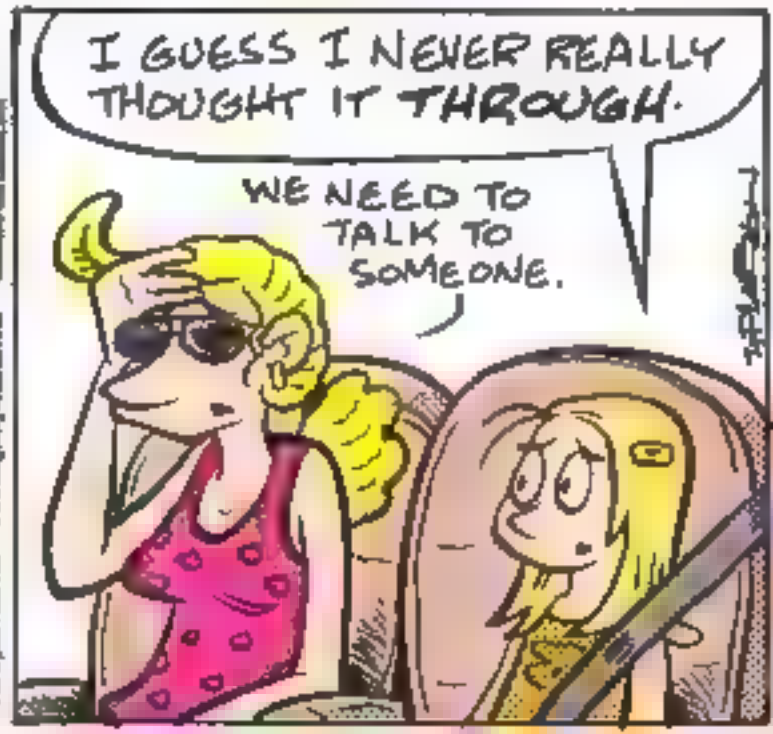
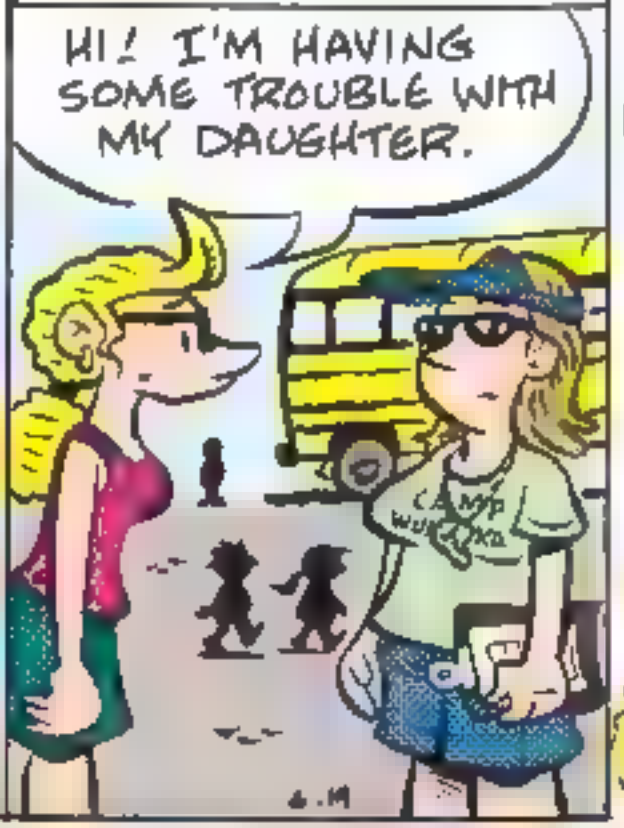
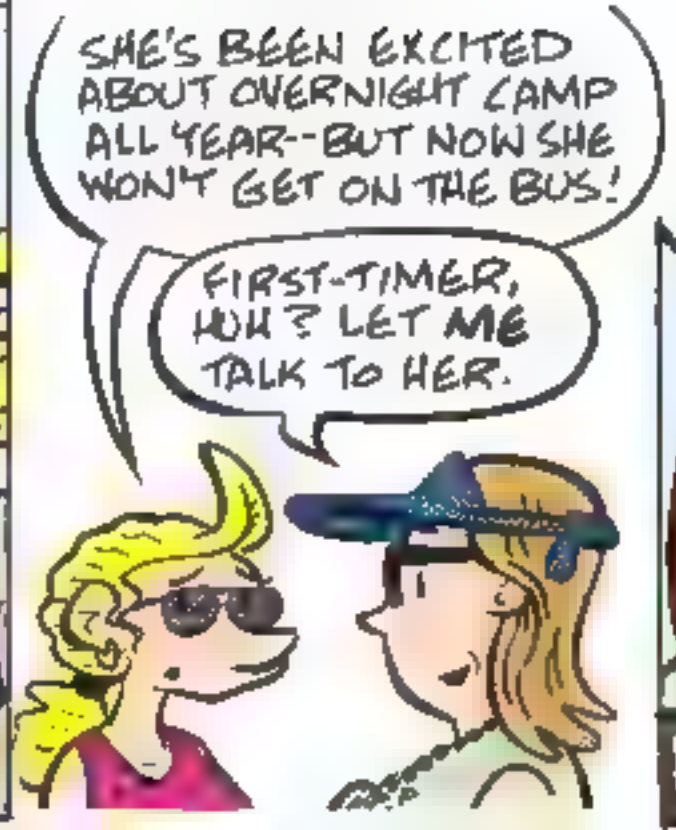
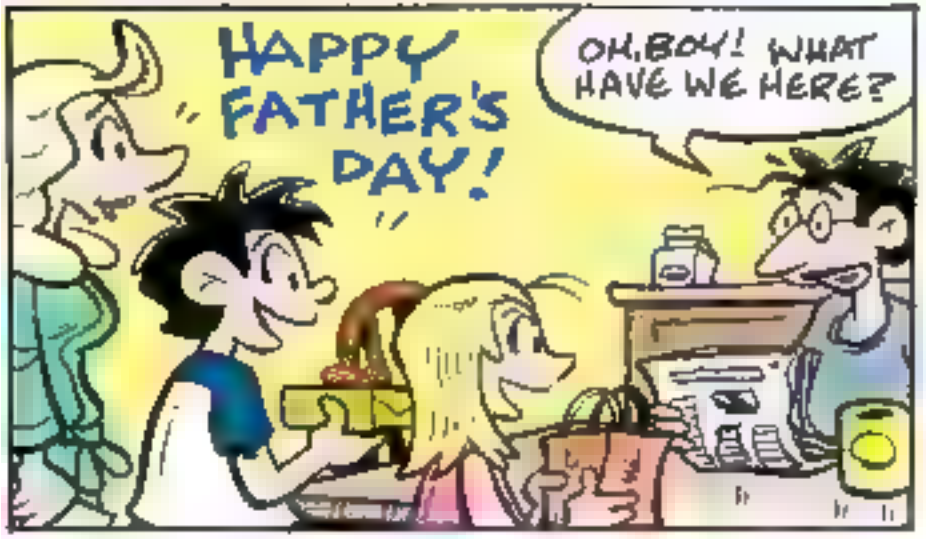



HI! I'M HAVING SOME TROUBLE WITH MY DAUGHTER.


SHE'S BEEN EXCITED ABOUT OVERNIGHT CAMP ALL YEAR--BUT NOW SHE WON'T GET ON THE BUS!
FIRST-TIMER, HUH? LET ME TALK TO HER.

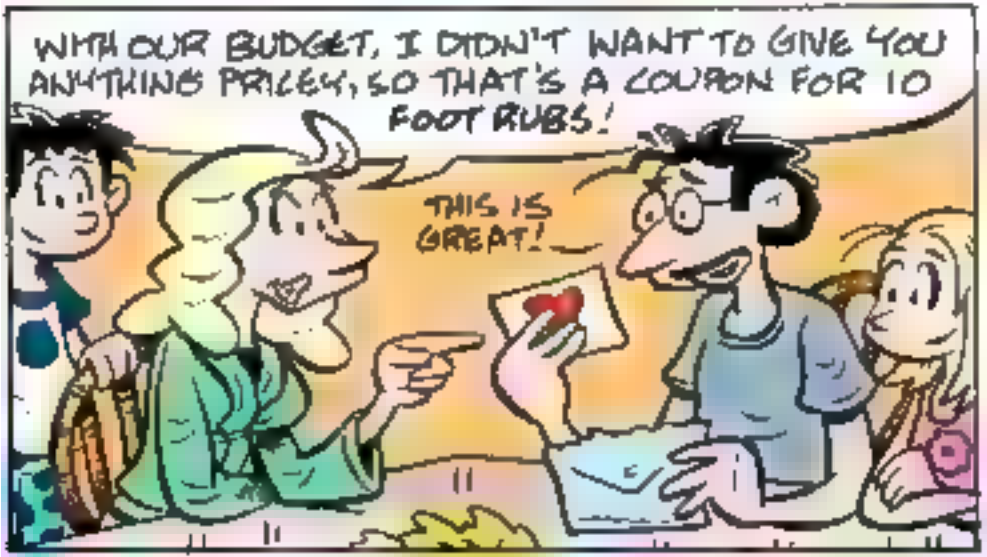
CARLY? I'M JANET, THE CAMP DIRECTOR! DON'T YOU WANNA BE PART OF ALL THE FUN WE'RE GONNA HAVE?

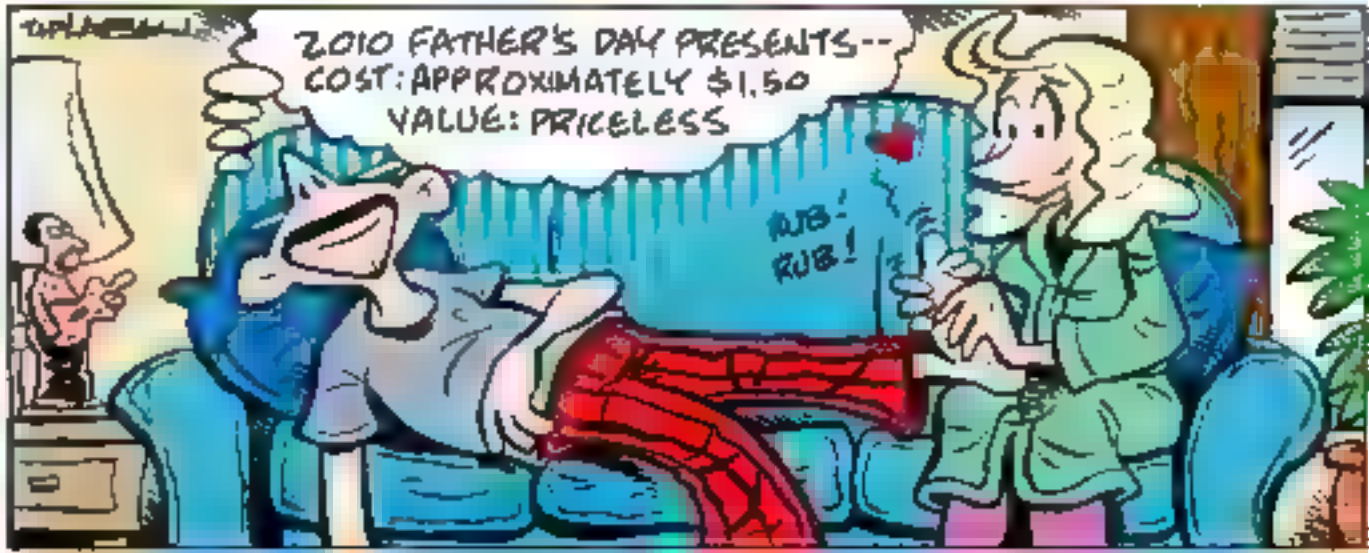
NOOO!!!
THIS COULD BE A TOUGH ONE...

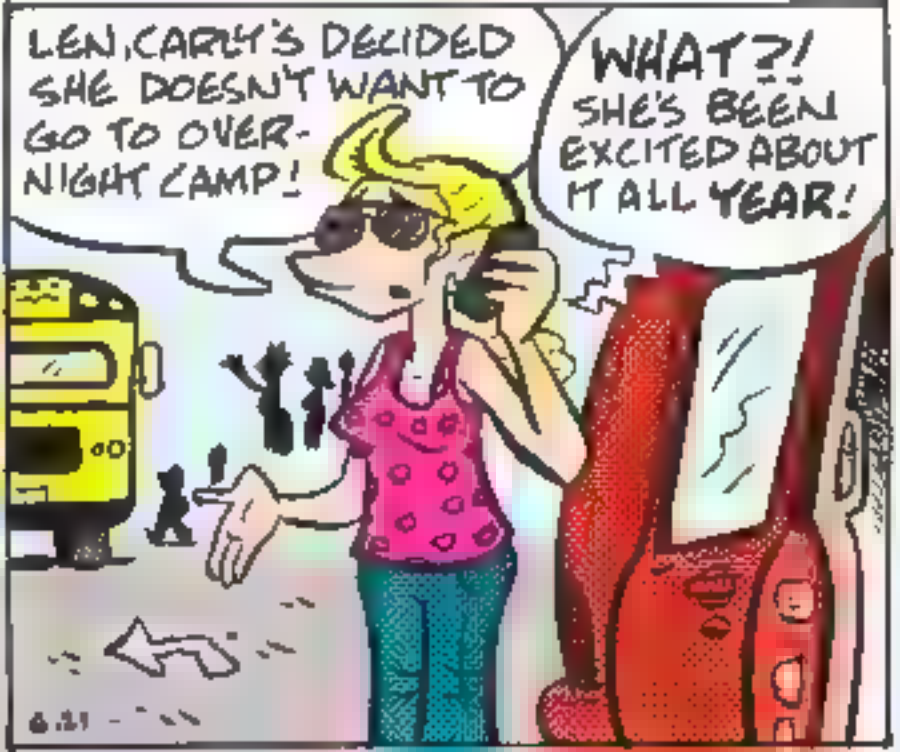

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!
OH, BOY! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

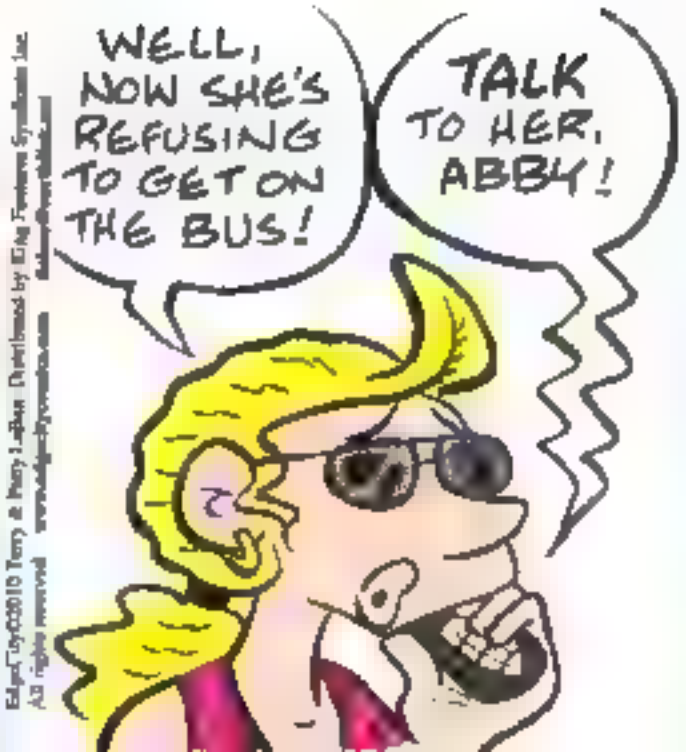
IT'S A LETTER OPENER SHAPED LIKE A TROUT. I GOT IT AT THE DOLLAR STORE.
COOL!

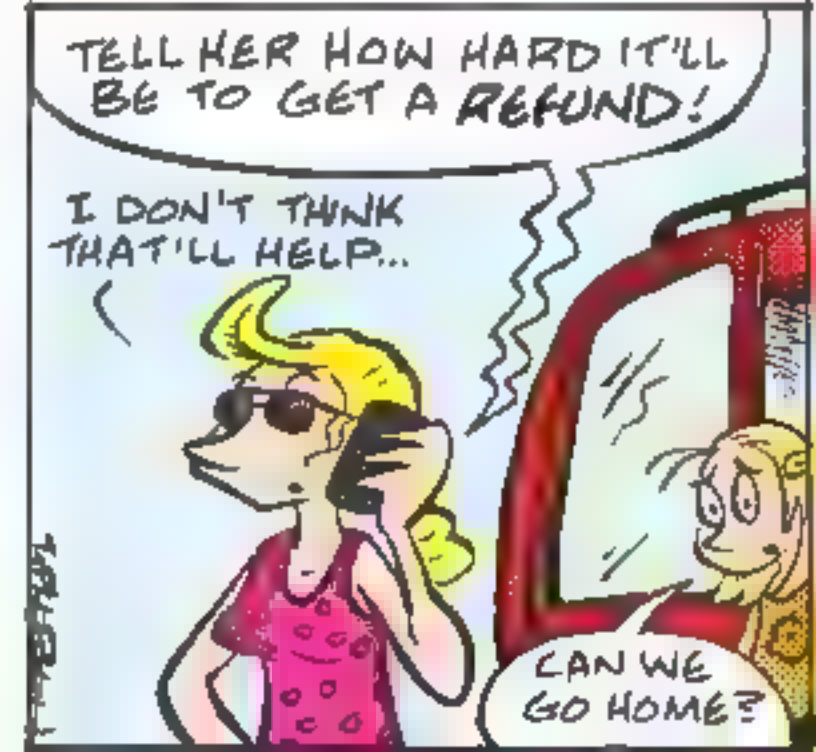
IT'S A CLAY SCULPTURE OF YOU PLAYING THE GUITAR! I MADE IT IN ART CLASS.
VERY NICE!

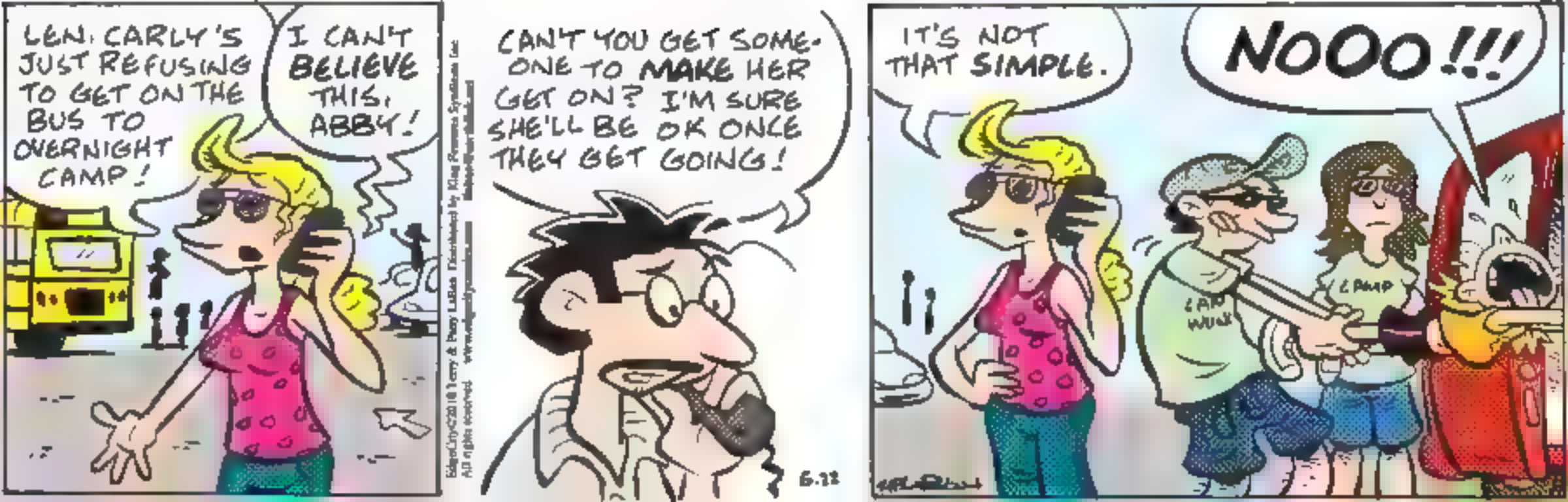

WITH OUR BUDGET, I DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE YOU ANYTHING PRICEY, SO THAT'S A COUPON FOR 10 FOOT RUBS!
THIS IS GREAT!

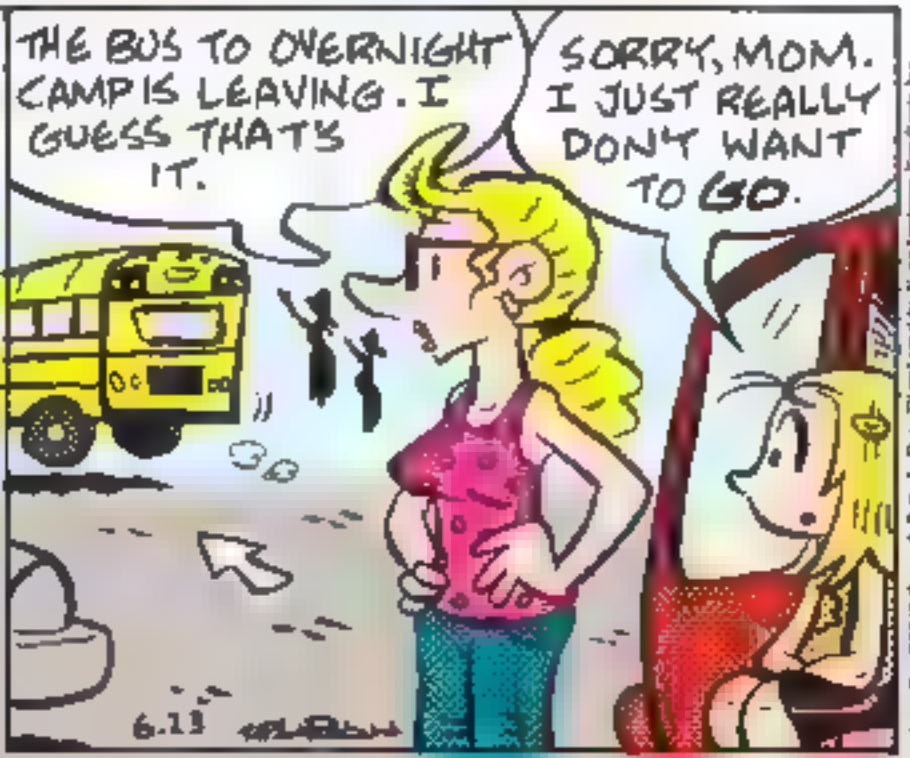

2010 FATHER'S DAY PRESENTS-- COST: APPROXIMATELY $1.50 VALUE: PRICELESS
RUB! RUB!


LEN, CARLY'S DECIDED SHE DOESN'T WANT TO GO TO OVER-NIGHT CAMP!
WHAT?! SHE'S BEEN EXCITED ABOUT IT ALL YEAR!


WELL, NOW SHE'S REFUSING TO GET ON THE BUS!
TALK TO HER, ABBY!


TELL HER HOW HARD IT'LL BE TO GET A REFUND!
I DON'T THINK THAT'LL HELP...
CAN WE GO HOME?


LEN, CARLY'S JUST REFUSING TO GET ON THE BUS TO OVERNIGHT CAMP!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS, ABBY!
CAN'T YOU GET SOMEONE TO MAKE HER GET ON? I'M SURE SHE'LL BE OK ONCE THEY GET GOING!
6.22
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.
NOOO!!!



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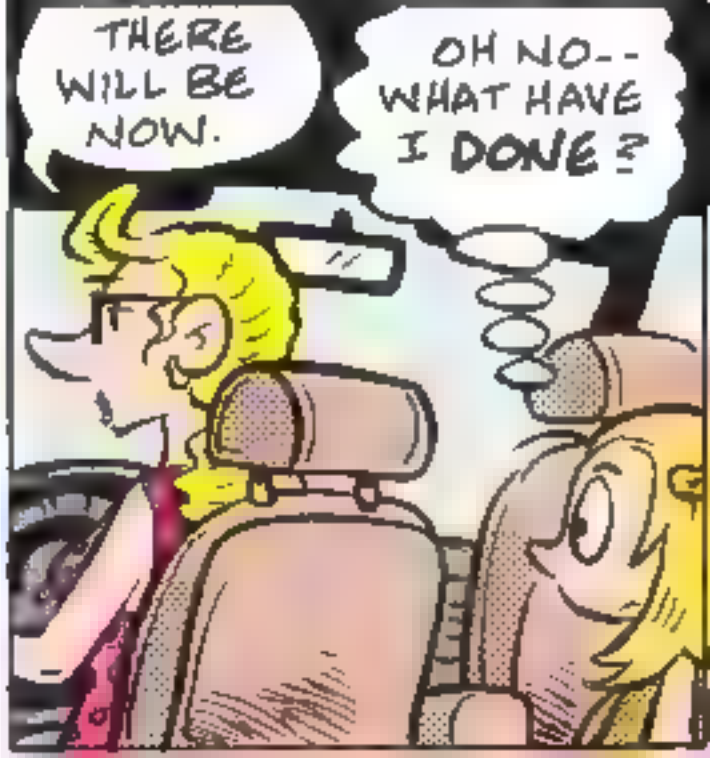

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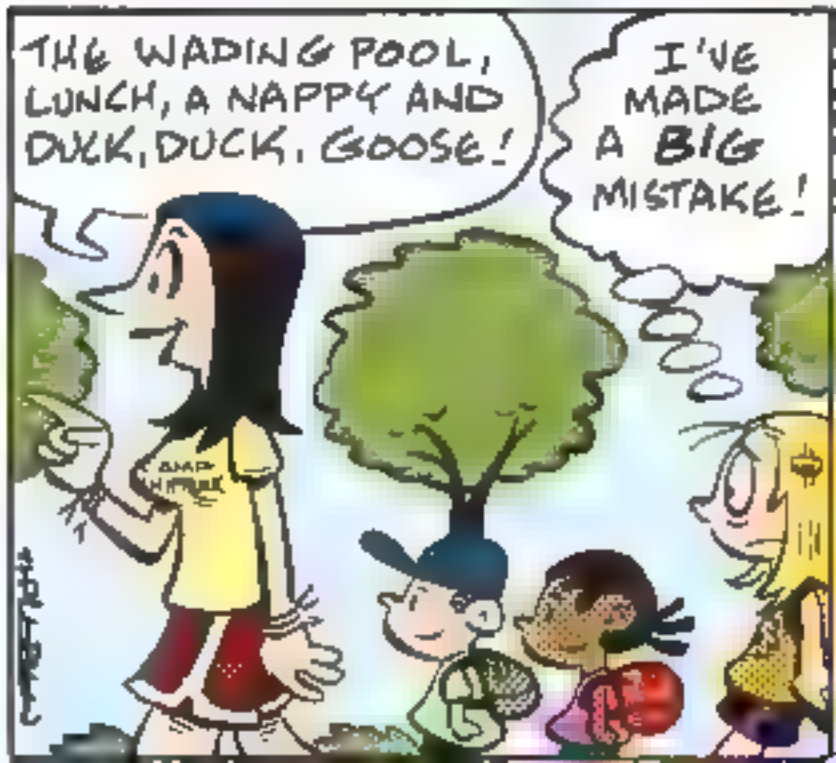

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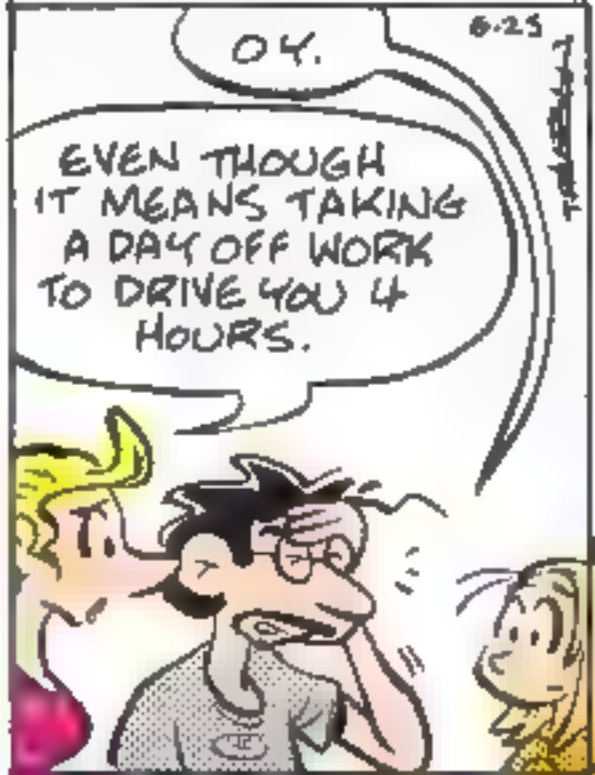
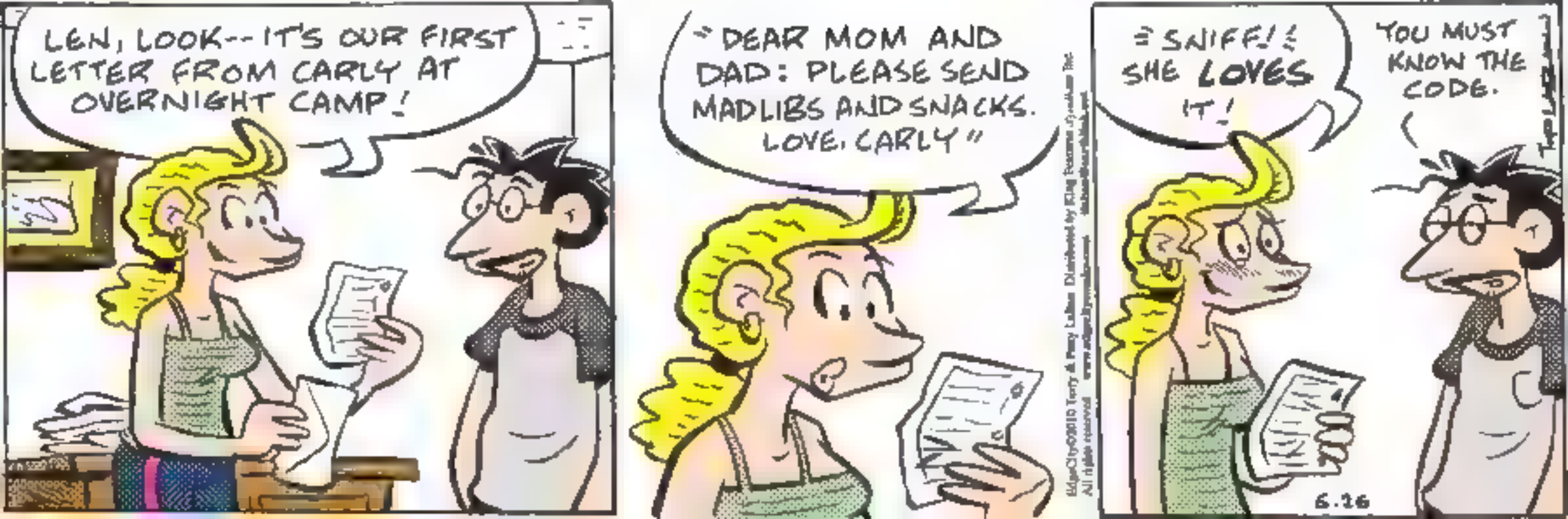



LEN, LOOK--IT'S OUR FIRST LETTER FROM CARLY AT OVERNIGHT CAMP!
"DEAR MOM AND DAD: PLEASE SEND MADLIBS AND SNACKS. LOVE, CARLY"
SNIFF! SHE LOVES IT!
YOU MUST KNOW THE CODE.
6.26

WELL, CARLY'S OFF TO OVER-NIGHT CAMP FOR THE FIRST TIME!

YEAH! I'M GOING TO MISS HER.

CAMP WUNKUTUNKA

IT'S GOING TO BE WEIRD NOT HAVING THE KIDS IN THE HOUSE FOR 2 WHOLE WEEKS!

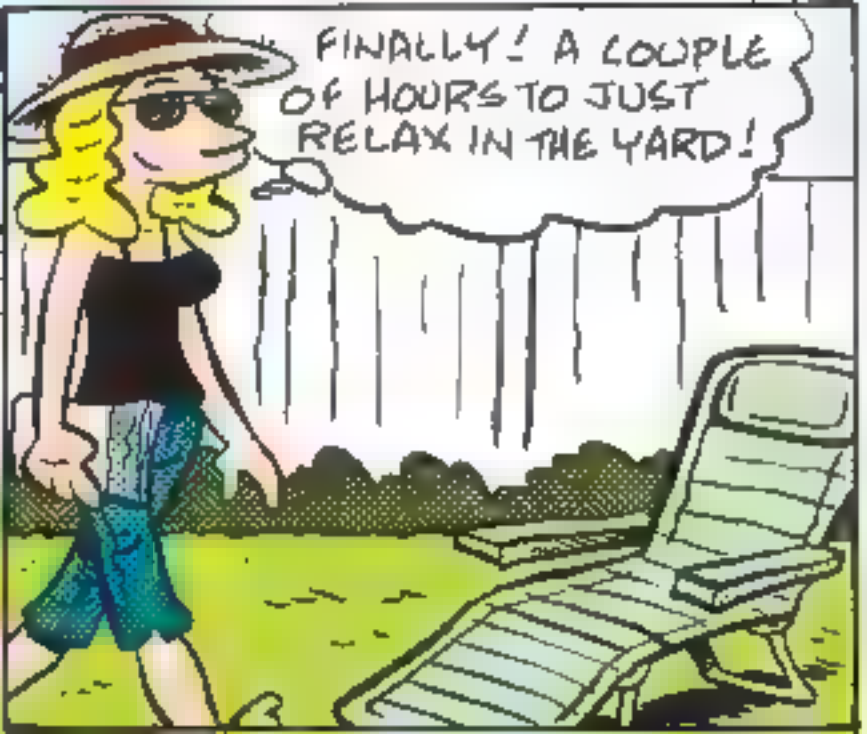
MAYBE.

BUT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING A LOT MORE TIME FOR JUST YOU AND ME!

CAN WE GO OUT TO DINNER A LITTLE LATER? I'M FINALLY RE-ORGANIZING MY FILES.

LET'S JUST ORDER A PIZZA. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO FIX THIS FENCE FOR YEARS.

6-27



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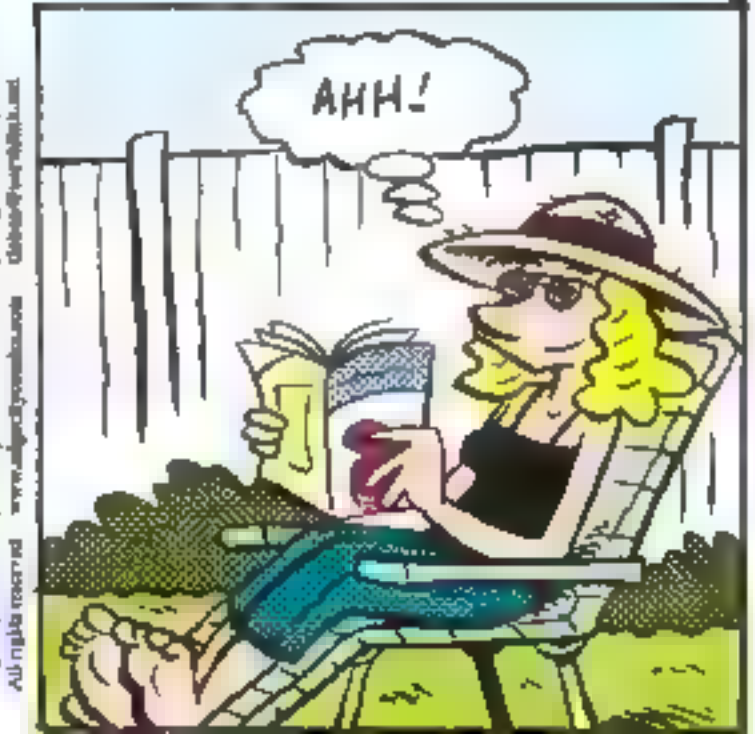

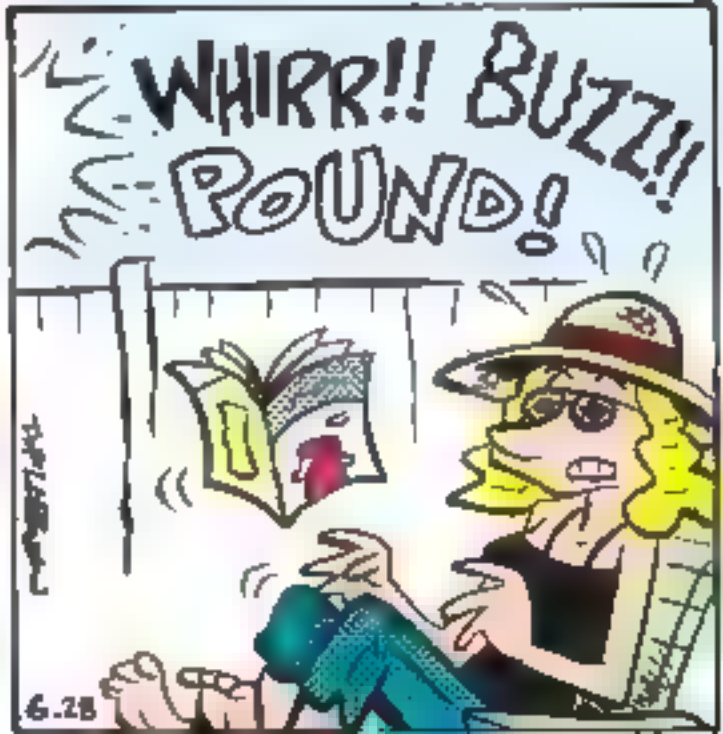

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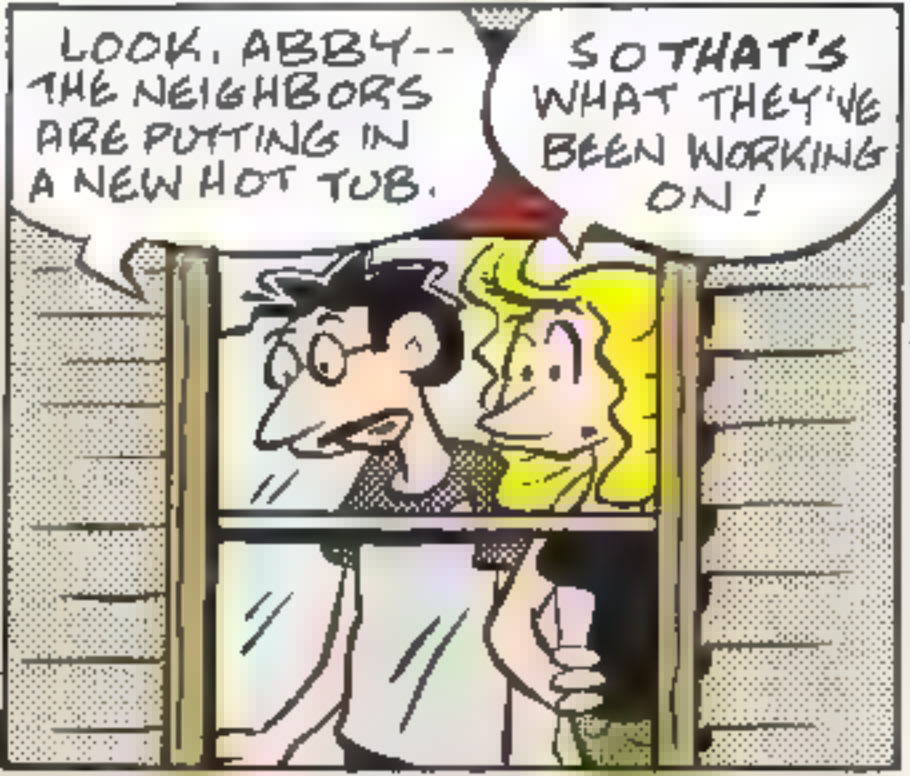

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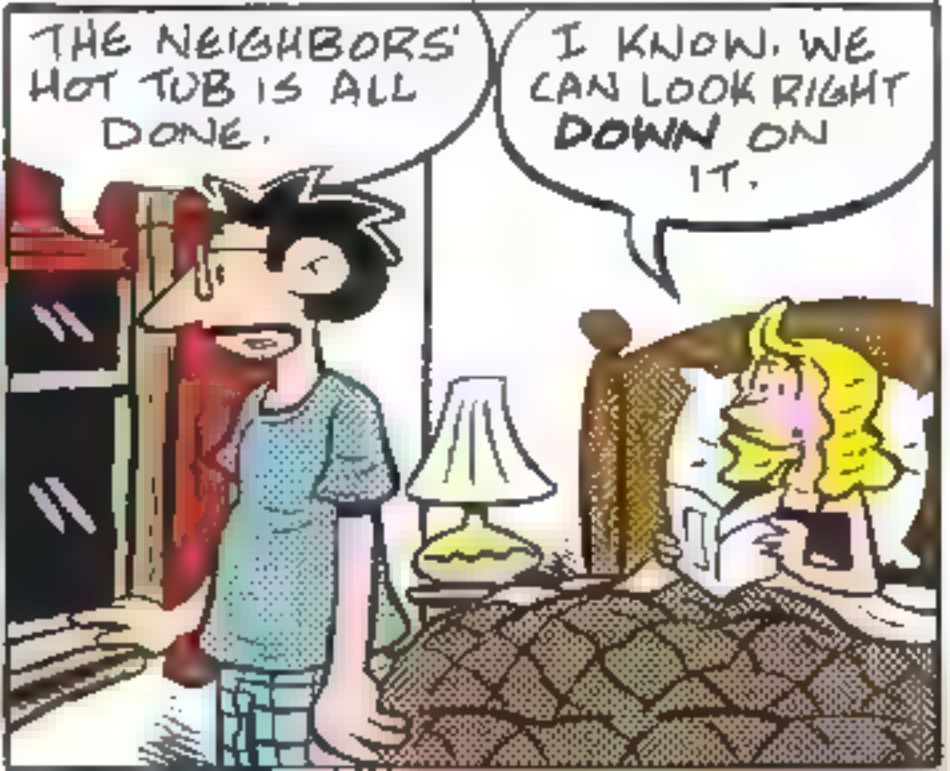
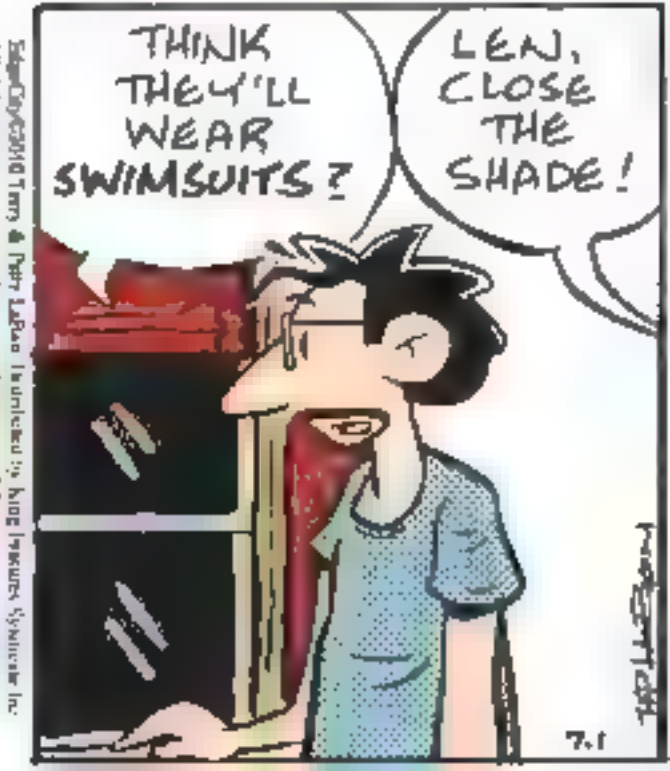
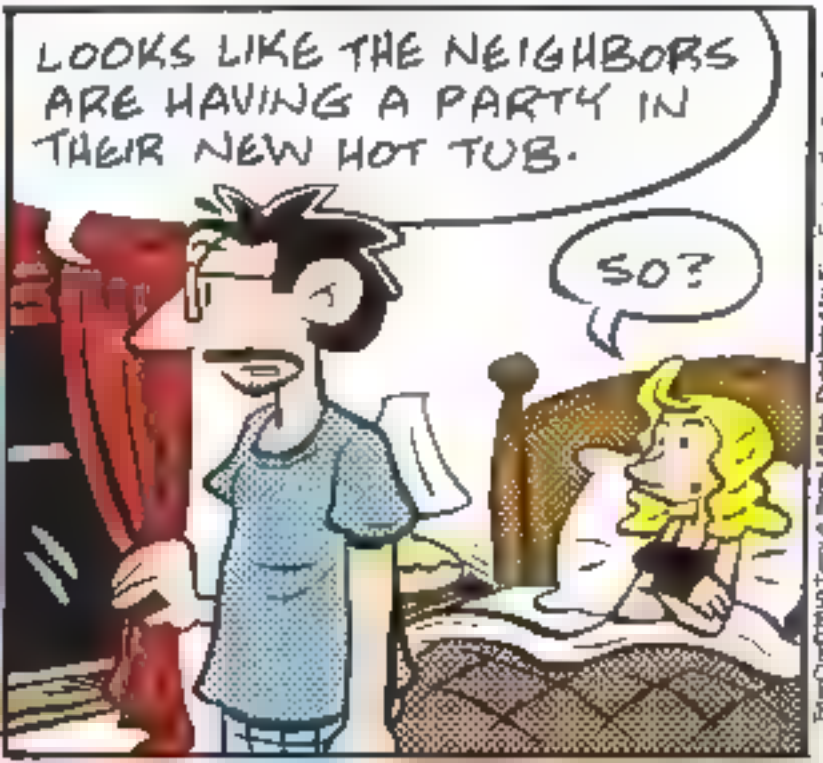
6-30


THE NEIGHBORS' HOT TUB IS ALL DONE.
I KNOW. WE CAN LOOK RIGHT DOWN ON IT.

IT BUGS ME! THE NEIGHBORS' HOT TUB ISN'T THE FIRST THING I WANT TO SEE OUT MY BEDROOM WINDOW!


THINK THEY'LL WEAR SWIMSUITS?
LEN, CLOSE THE SHADE!



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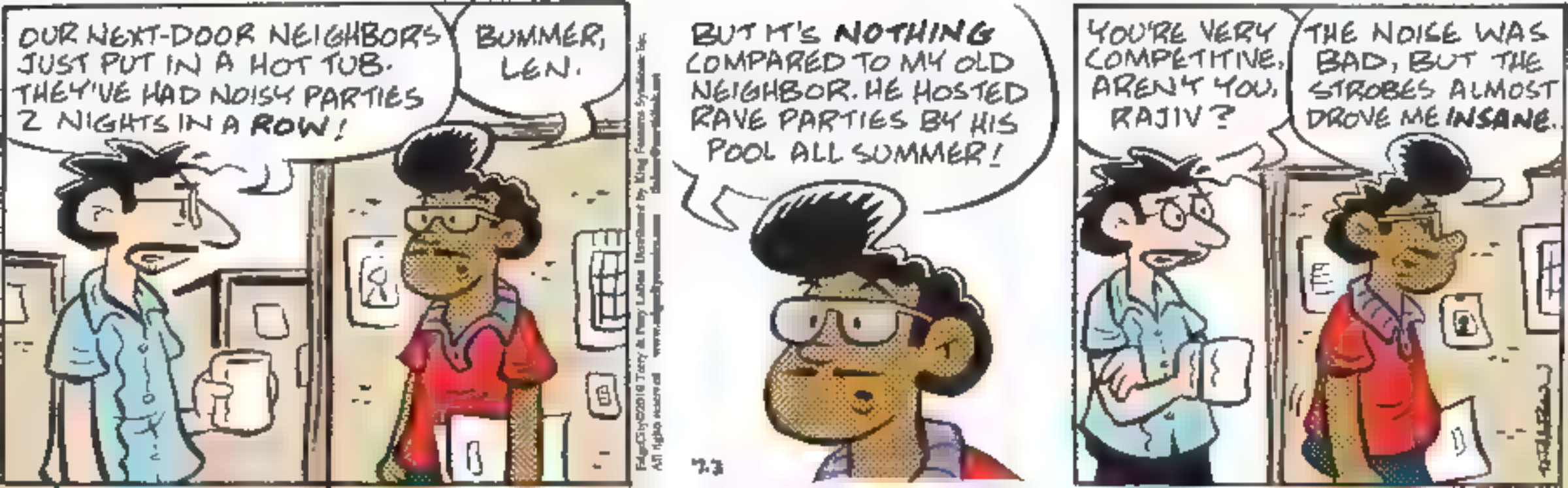
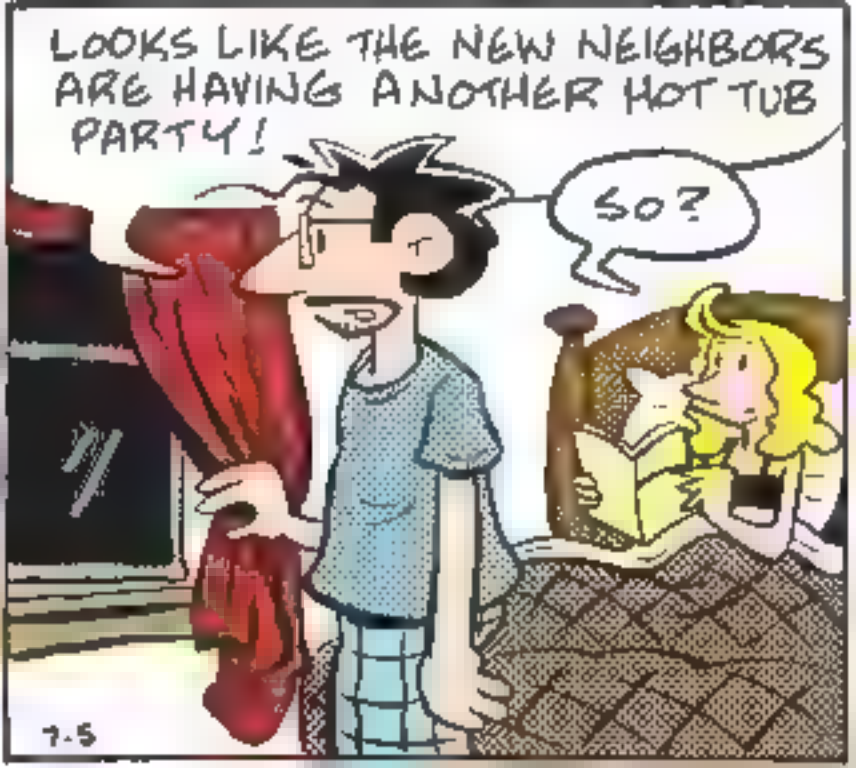

OUR NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS JUST PUT IN A HOT TUB. THEY'VE HAD NOISY PARTIES 2 NIGHTS IN A ROW!
BUMMER, LEN.
BUT IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO MY OLD NEIGHBOR. HE HOSTED RAVE PARTIES BY HIS POOL ALL SUMMER!
YOU'RE VERY COMPETITIVE, AREN'T YOU, RAJIV?
THE NOISE WAS BAD, BUT THE STROBES ALMOST DROVE ME INSANE.

LOOK--THERE'S SOMEONE DRESSED LIKE GEORGE WASHINGTON!
AND THAT GUY'S DRESSED LIKE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.
AND THEY MUST BE BETSY ROSS AND PAUL REVERE!
THEY'RE HEADING TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING. THINK THERE'S A 4th OF JULY REENACTMENT?
LET'S GO SEE!
NAW--IT'S JUST A TEA PARTY.
TAKE BACK OUR COUNTRY
NO MORE TAXES!



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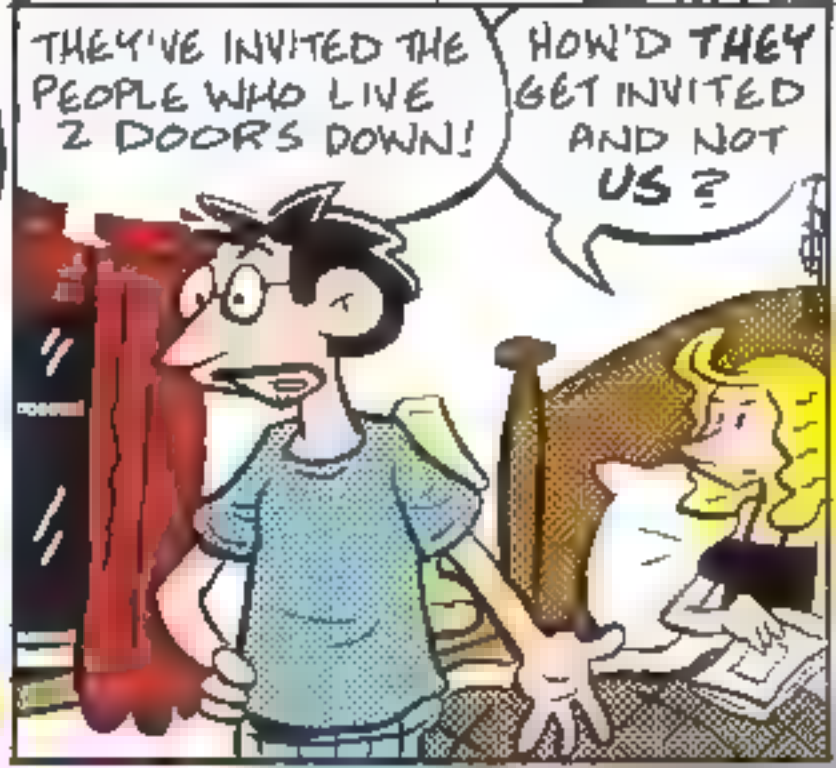
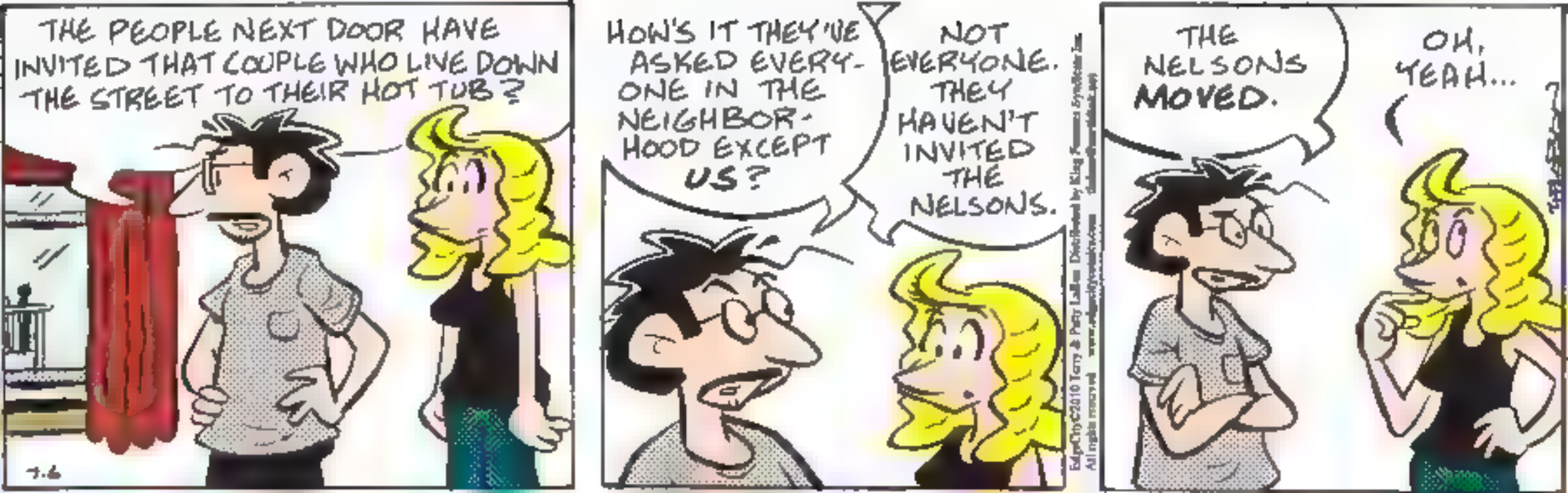
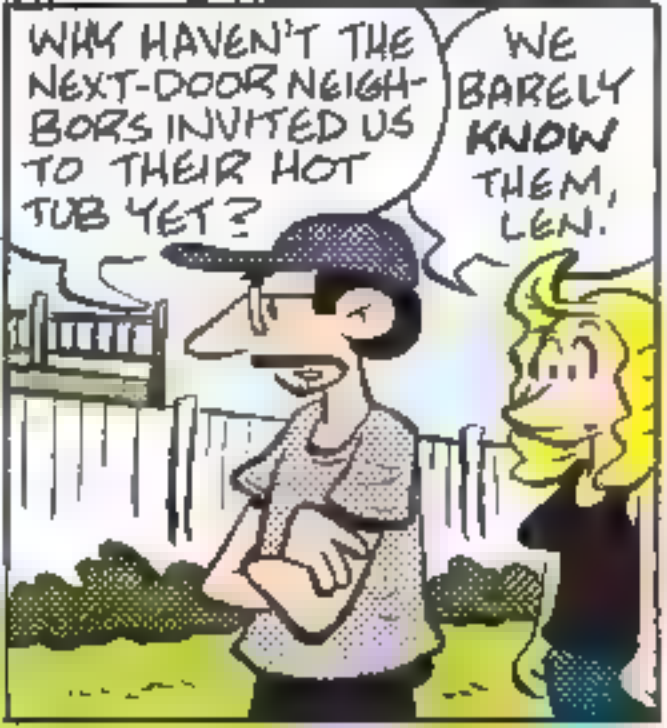
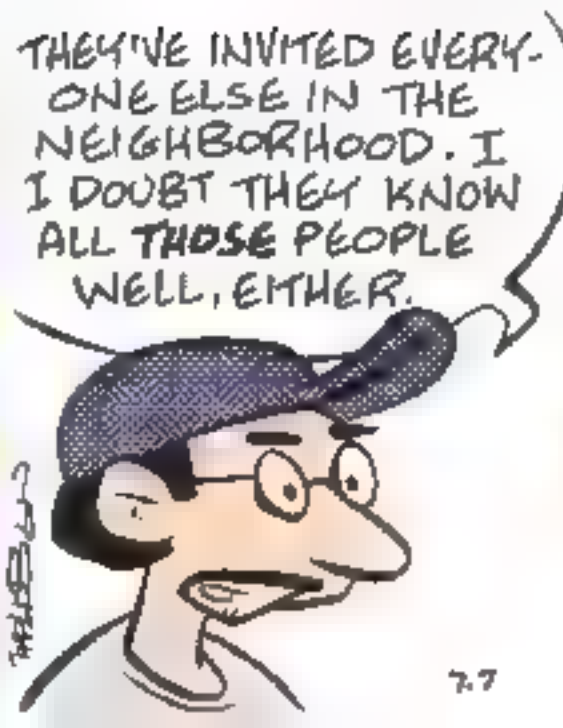



THE PEOPLE NEXT DOOR HAVE INVITED THAT COUPLE WHO LIVE DOWN THE STREET TO THEIR HOT TUB?
HOW'S IT THEY'VE ASKED EVERYONE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD EXCEPT US?
NOT EVERYONE. THEY HAVEN'T INVITED THE NELSONS.
THE NELSONS MOVED.
OH, YEAH...





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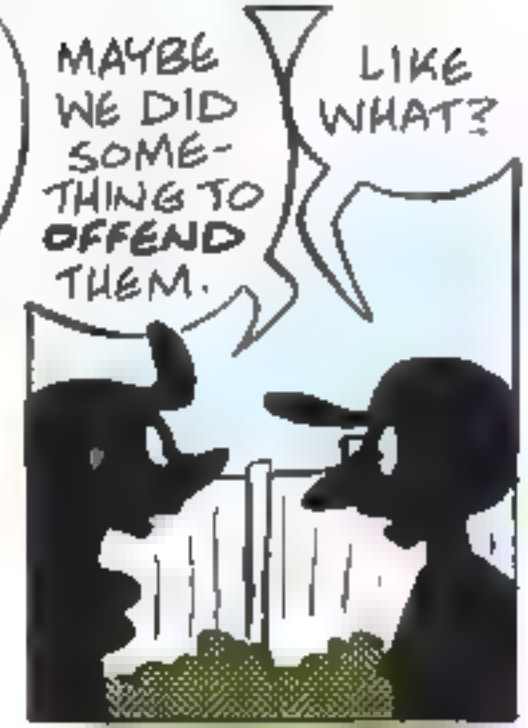
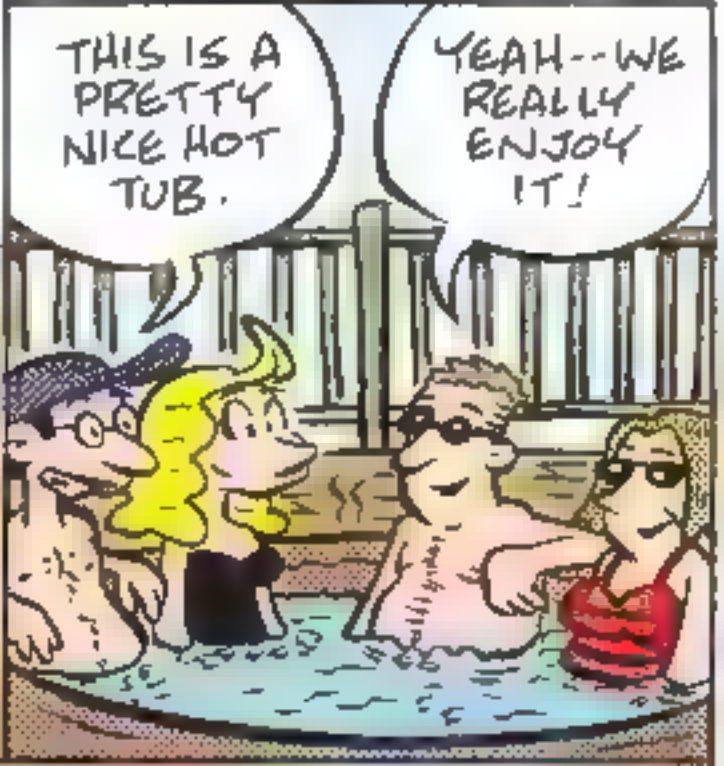


IT'S LIKE A CONSTANT HOT TUB PARTY NEXT DOOR!
THEY'VE INVITED EVERYONE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD EXCEPT US!
WELL, IF THEY WANT TO SNUB US, WHO CARES?
WHY WOULD WE WANNA HANG WITH THEM ANYHOW?
HEY, NEIGHBORS!
WANNA JOIN US IN OUR NEW HOT TUB?
SURE!



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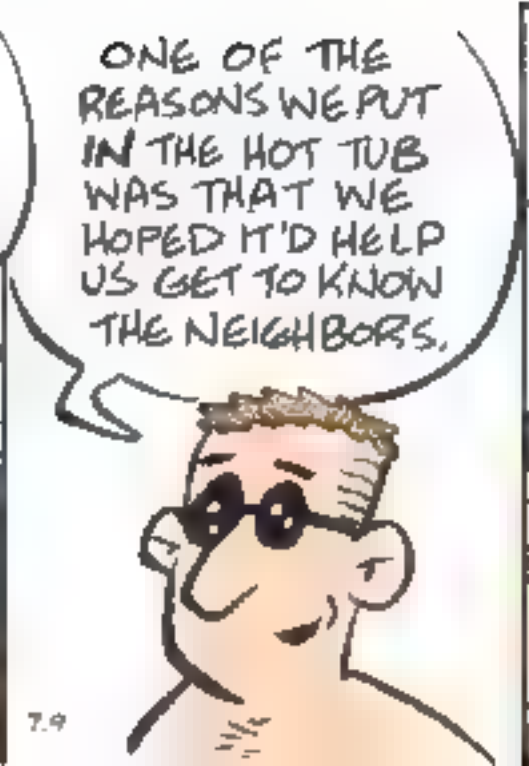

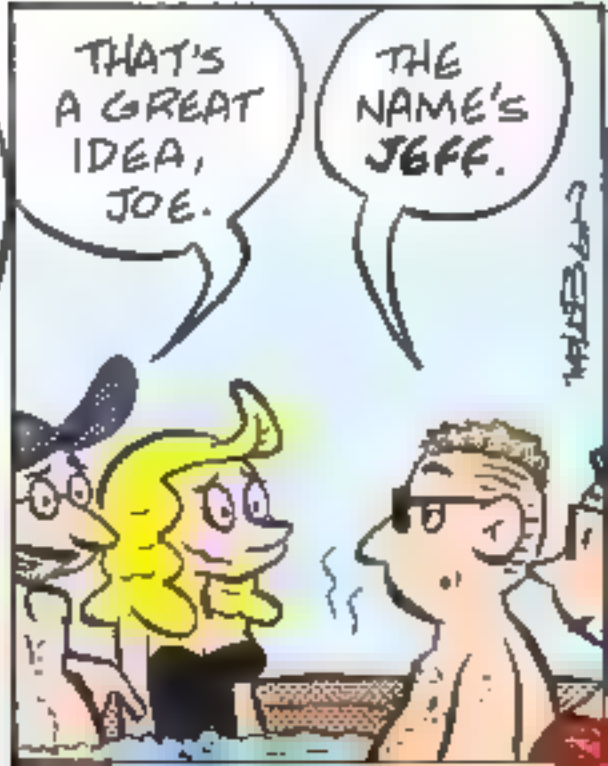

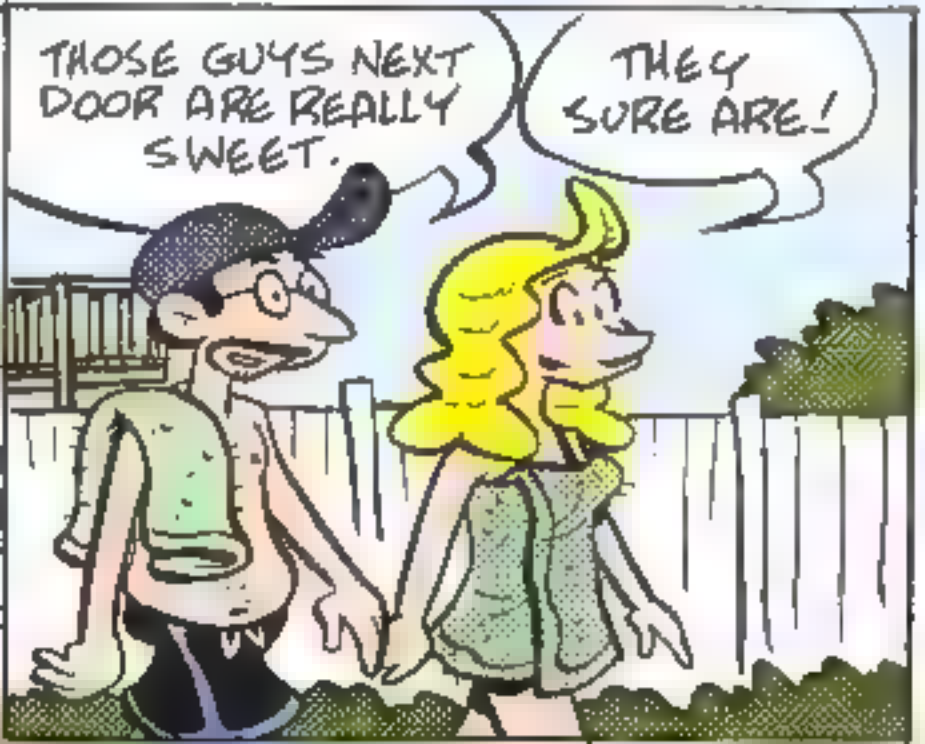

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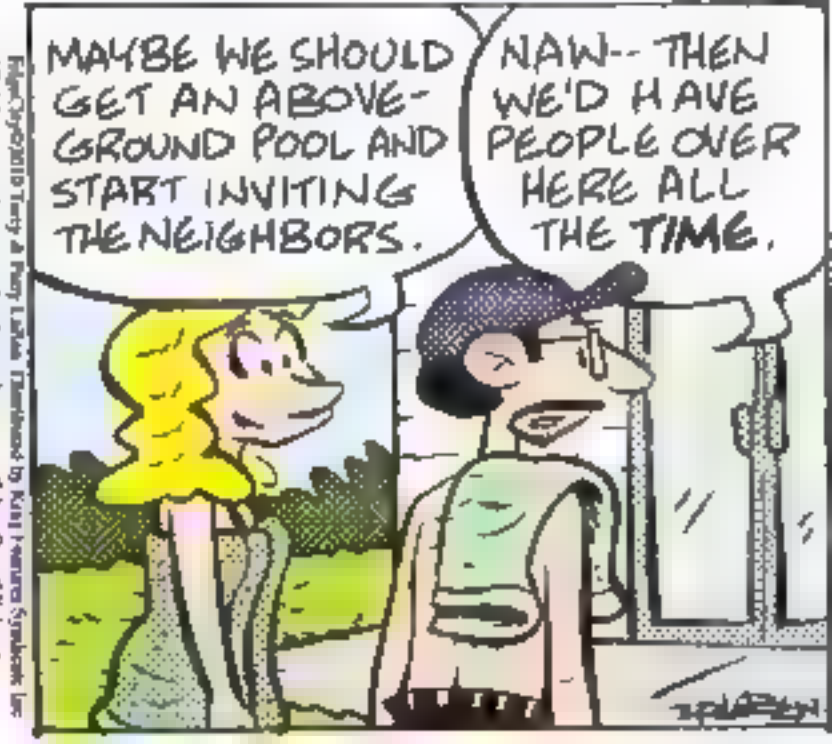

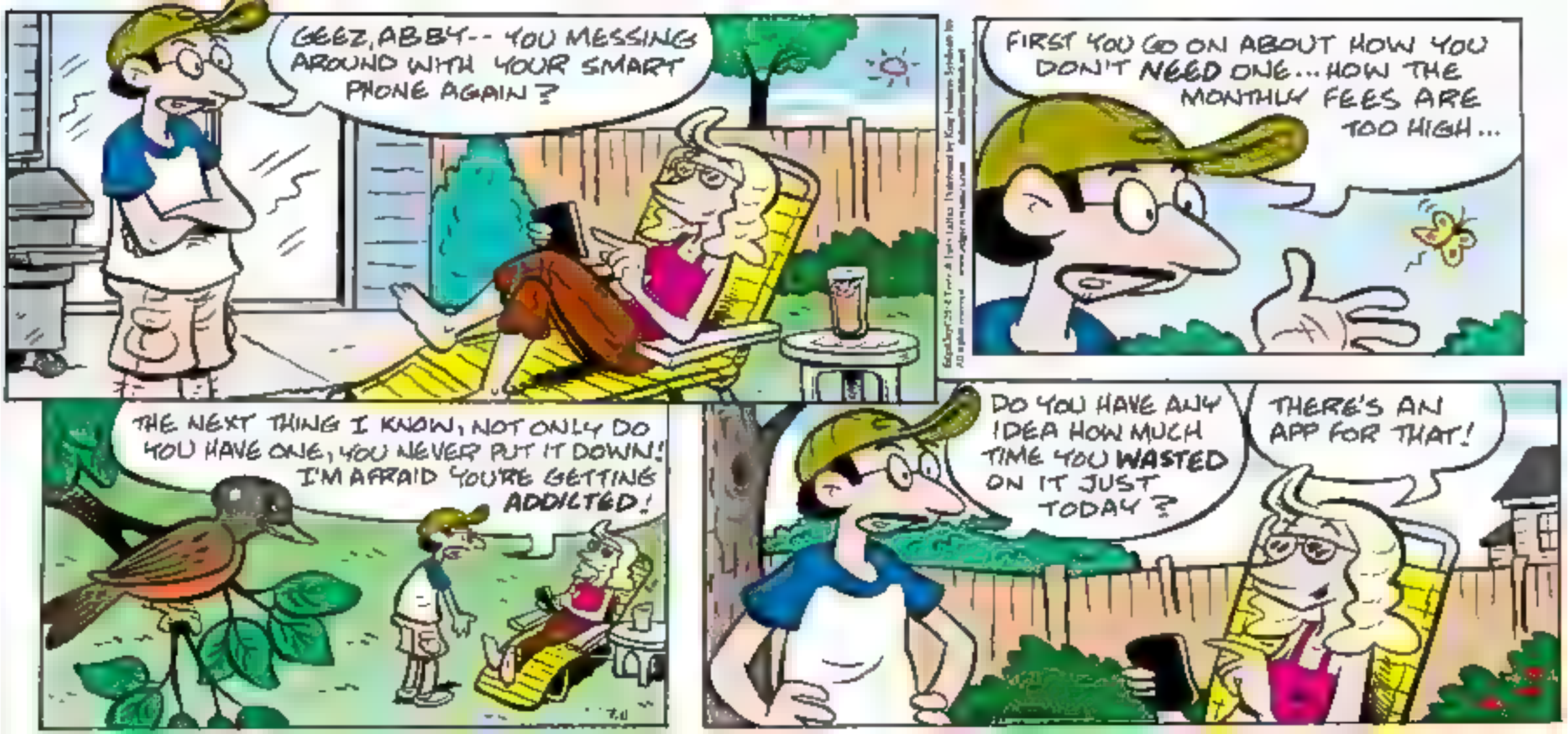
GEEZ, ABBY-- YOU MESSING AROUND WITH YOUR SMART PHONE AGAIN?
FIRST YOU GO ON ABOUT HOW YOU DON'T NEED ONE... HOW THE MONTHLY FEES ARE TOO HIGH...
THE NEXT THING I KNOW, NOT ONLY DO YOU HAVE ONE, YOU NEVER PUT IT DOWN! I'M AFRAID YOU'RE GETTING ADDICTED!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH TIME YOU WASTED ON IT JUST TODAY?
THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

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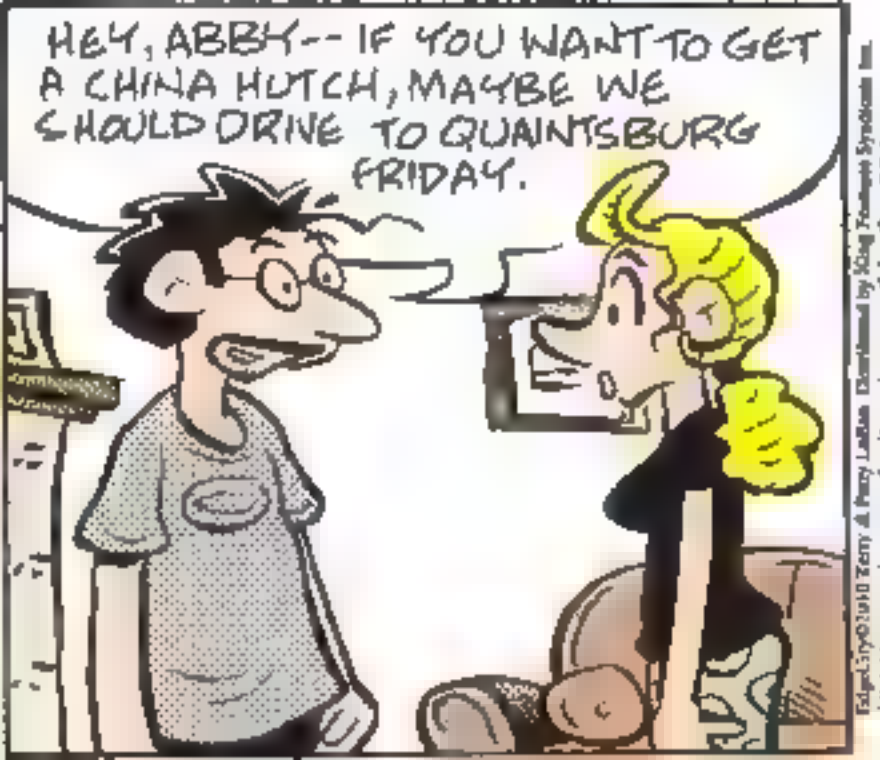
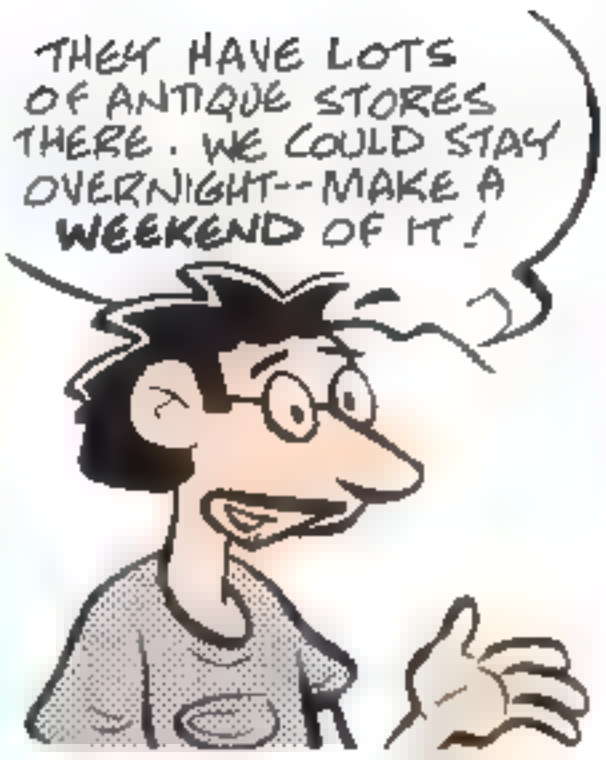
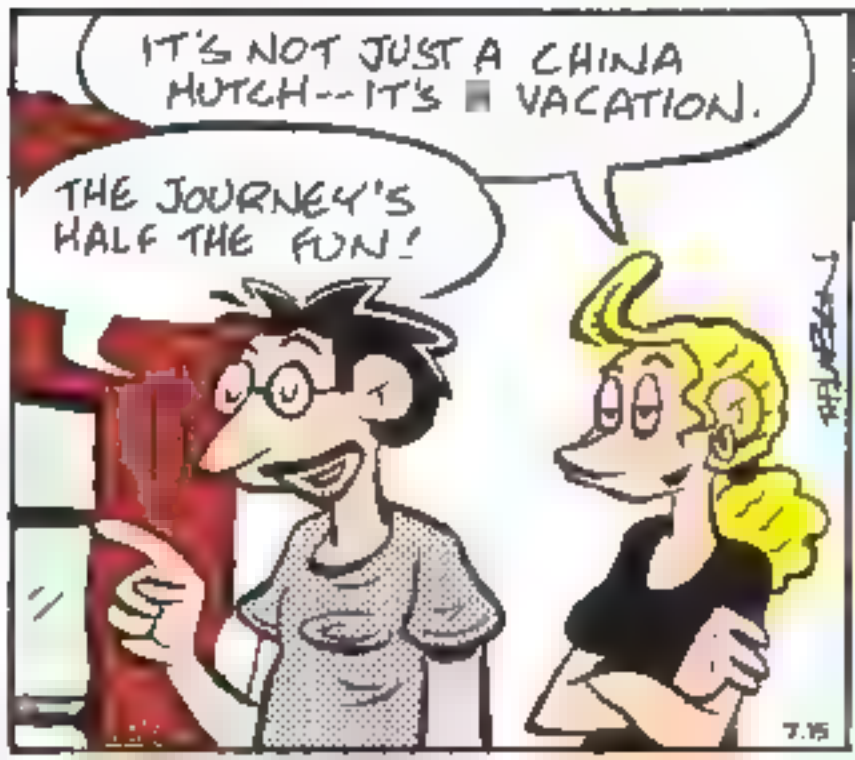
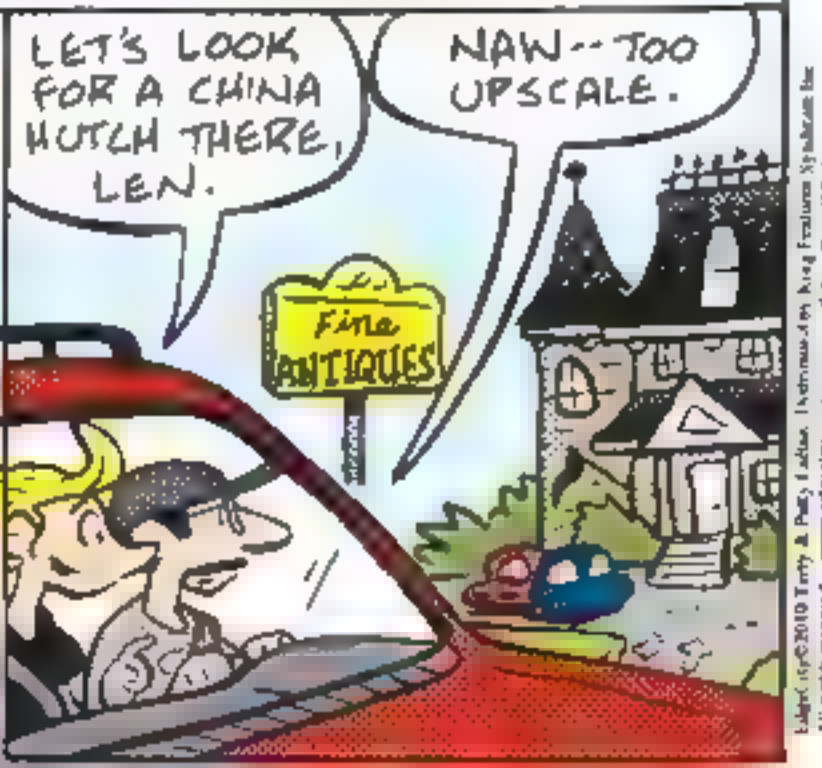
IF WE HAD A CHINA HUTCH, WE COULD DISPLAY OUR CHINA AND WED USE IT A LOT MORE.
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
LET'S GO TO HIKEA THIS WEEKEND!
HIKEA?!
THE LAST THING I'D WANT IS A BLAND, PRE-FAB, DANISH MODERN THING IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR RETRO DINING ROOM...
... EVEN IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO ASSEMBLE IT!
OK! OK!

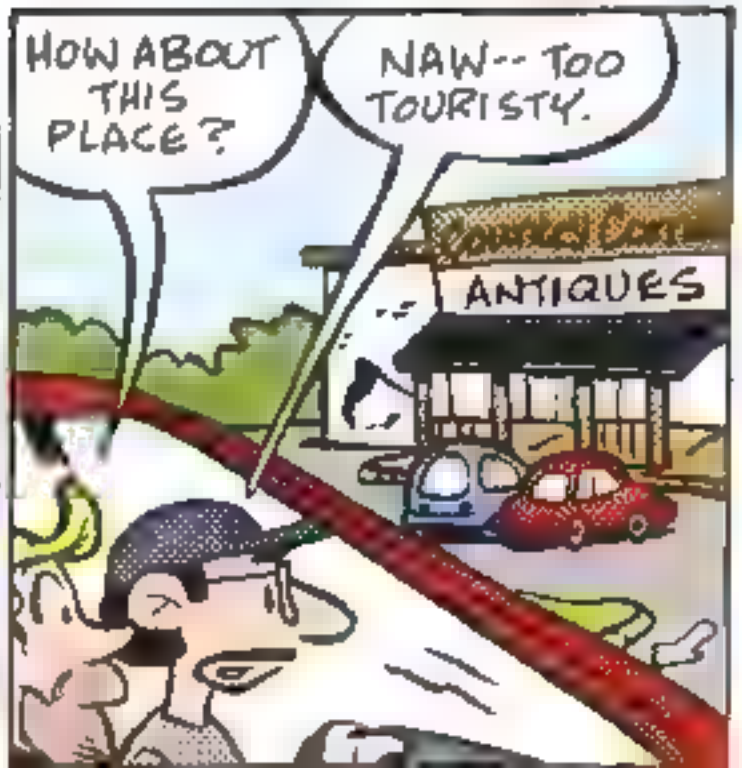
IF WE'RE GOING TO GET A CHINA HUTCH WE OUGHT TO GET SOMETHING INTERESTING. LET'S CHECK CRAIGSLIST.
OH MY GOSH! SOMEONE CLOSE BY IS SELLING A HEYWOOD-WAKEFIELD CHINA HUTCH FOR $200! I'M GOING OVER THERE NOW!
FORGET IT.

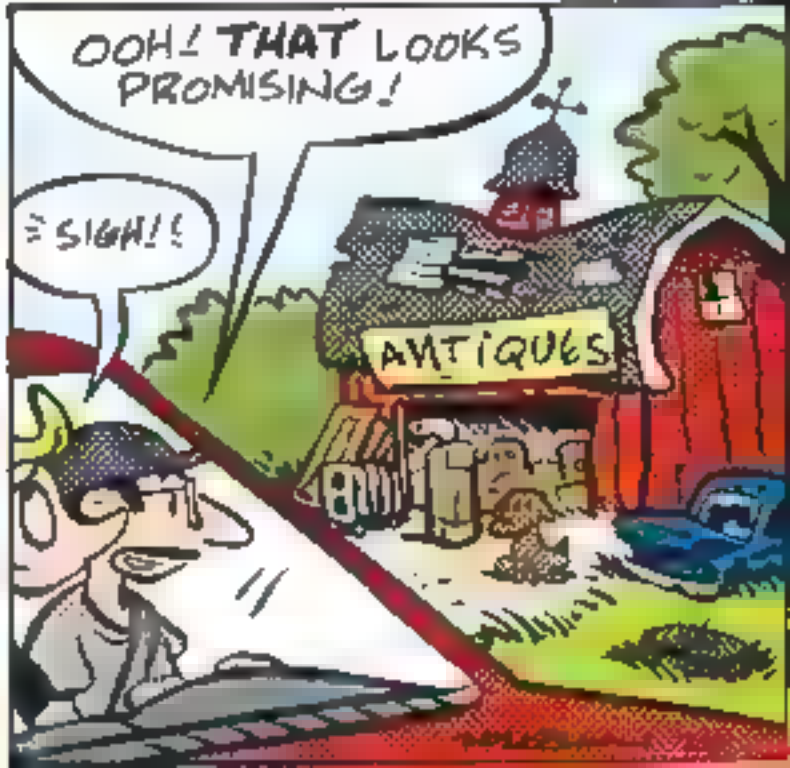

HEY, ABBY-- IF YOU WANT TO GET A CHINA HUTCH, MAYBE WE SHOULD DRIVE TO QUAINTSBURG FRIDAY.

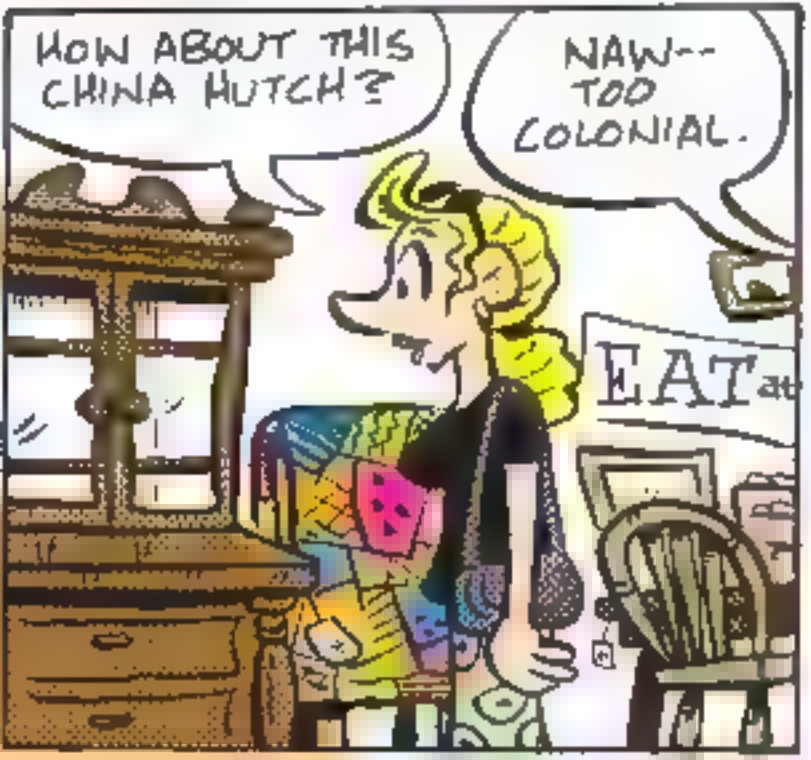

THEY HAVE LOTS OF ANTIQUE STORES THERE. WE COULD STAY OVERNIGHT--MAKE A WEEKEND OF IT!

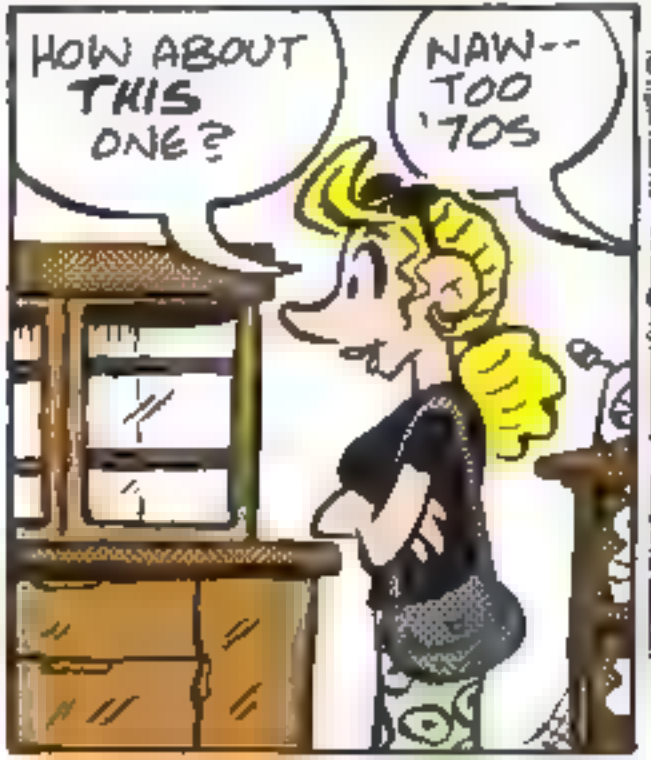

IT'S NOT JUST A CHINA HUTCH--IT'S A VACATION.
THE JOURNEY'S HALF THE FUN!
7.15

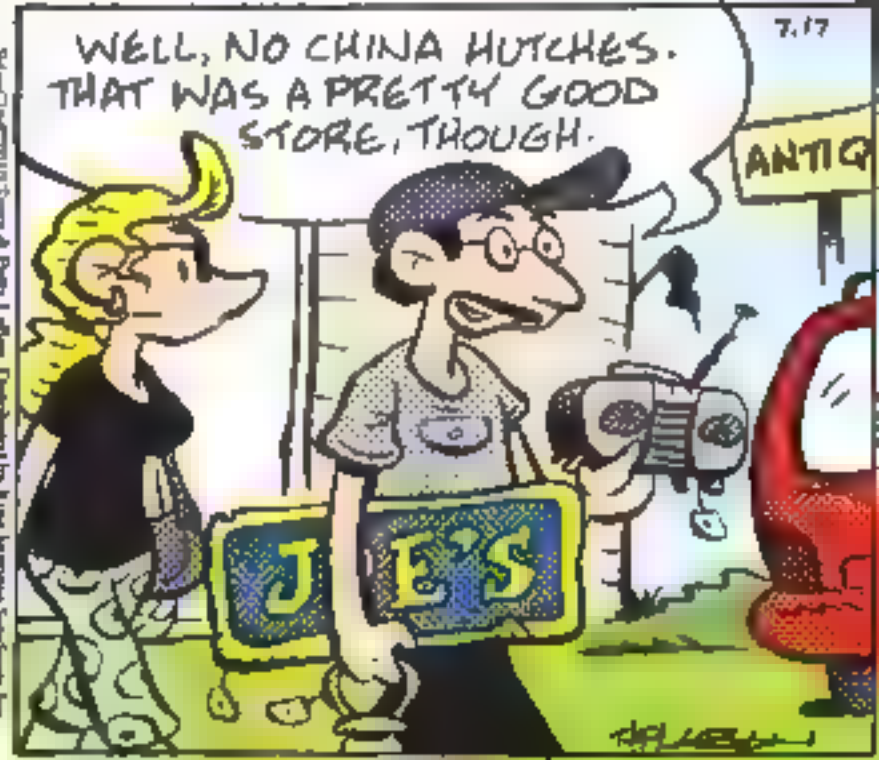

LET'S LOOK FOR A CHINA HUTCH THERE, LEN.
NAW-- TOO UPSCALE.
Fine ANTIQUES


HOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?
NAW-- TOO TOURISTY.
ANTIQUES


OOH! THAT LOOKS PROMISING!
SIGH!
ANTIQUES


HOW ABOUT THIS CHINA HUTCH?
NAW-- TOO COLONIAL.
EAT at

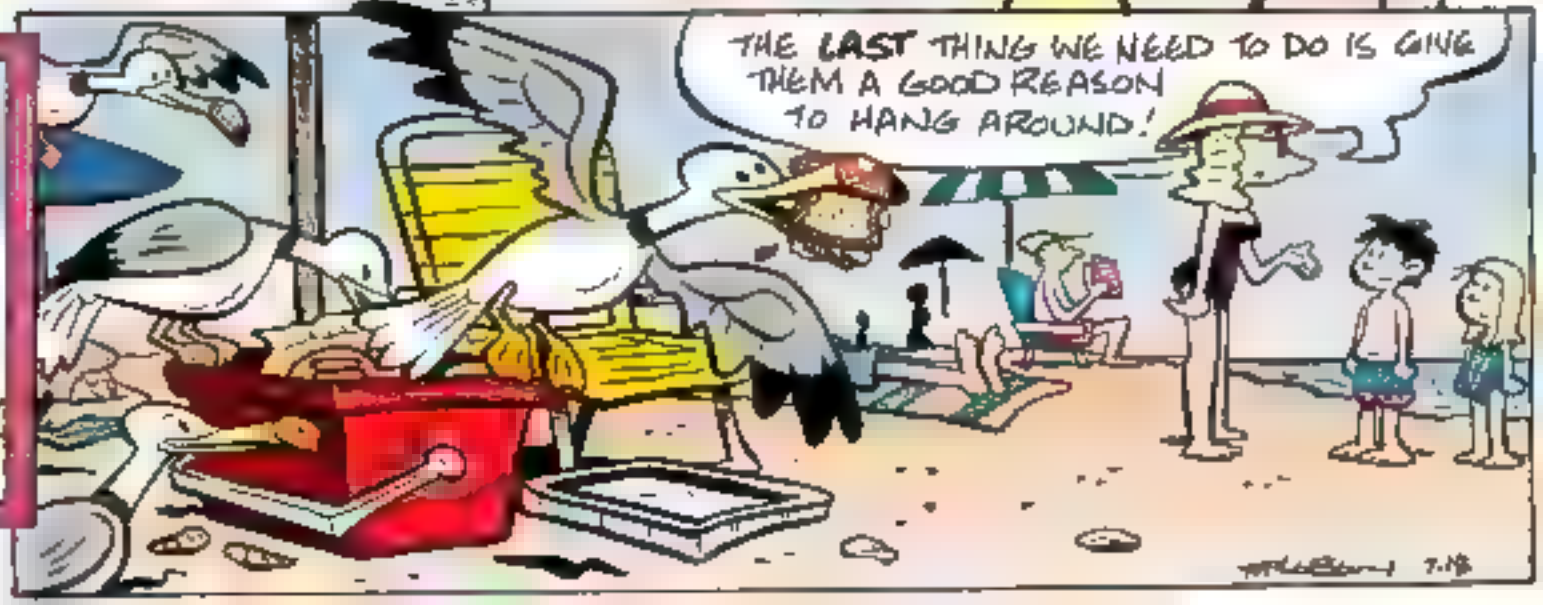

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
NAW-- TOO '70S


7.17
WELL, NO CHINA HUTCHES. THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD STORE, THOUGH.
ANTIQ
J E'S

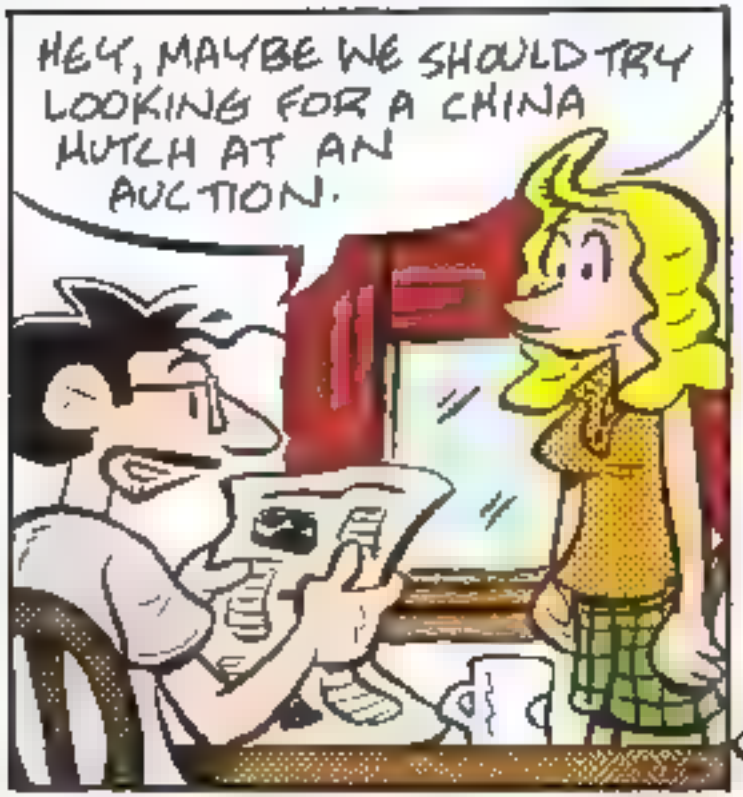
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING ?
FEEDING SOME OF OUR SANDWICHES TO THE SEAGULLS!

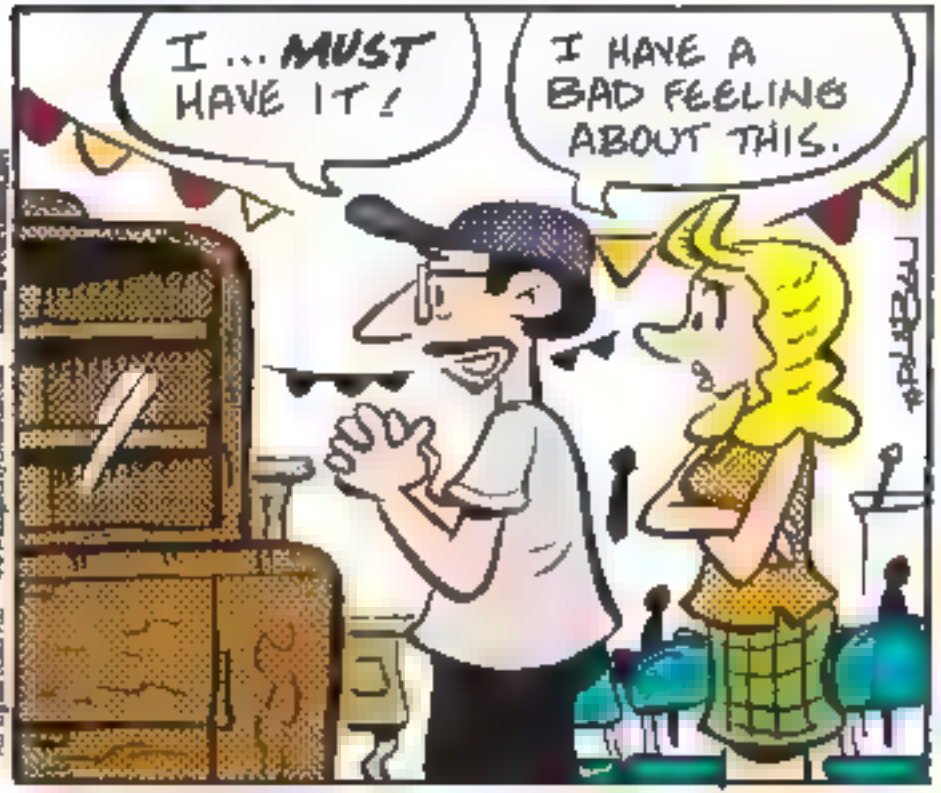
WELL, STOP! IT'S NOT GOOD TO GIVE PEOPLE FOOD TO WILD ANIMALS!

ANYHOW, THOSE THINGS ARE BIG ENOUGH NUISANCES AS IT IS!


THE LAST THING WE NEED TO DO IS GIVE THEM A GOOD REASON TO HANG AROUND!

WE'VE BEEN TO EVERY ANTIQUE STORE IN QUAINTSBURG AND WE STILL HAVENT FOUND A SUITABLE CHINA HUTCH.
ANT
I THINK IT'S TIME TO GO HOME.
WELL, WE MAY NOT HAVE FOUND WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR...
BUT I FOUND TONS OF OTHER COOL STUFF!
EXACTLY!





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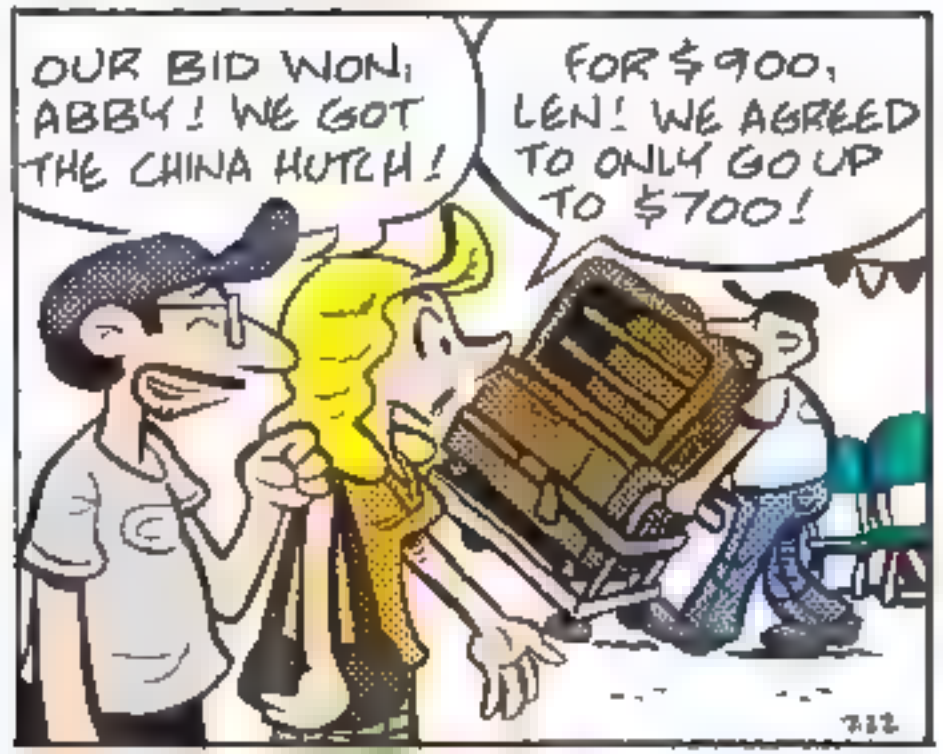
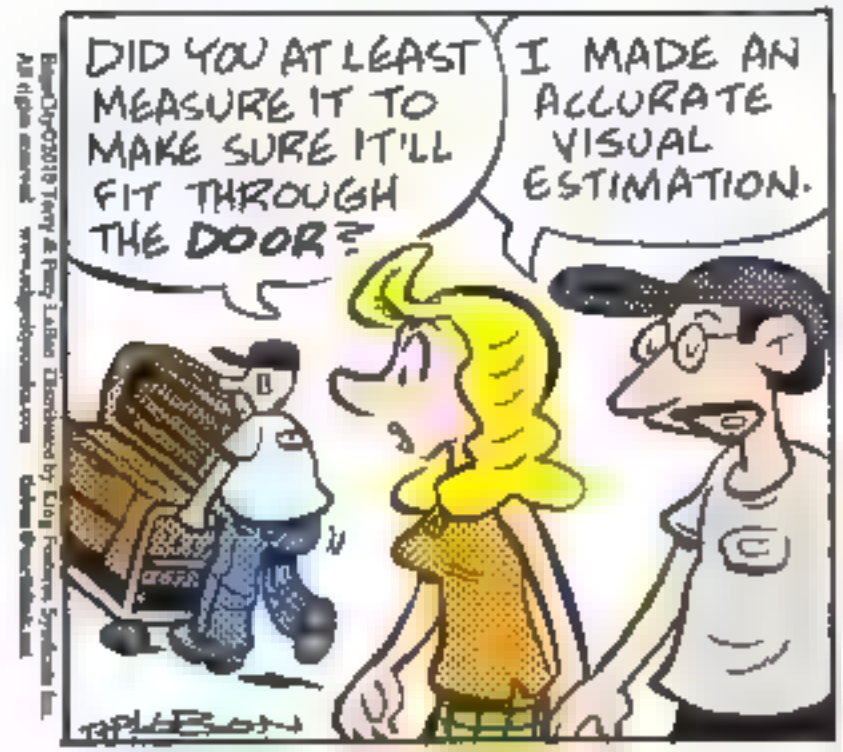
THAT CHINA HUTCH IS PERFECT!
IT IS NICE. BUT THIS IS AN AUCTION, LEN! WE CAN'T GET CARRIED AWAY!
DON'T WORRY-- I KNOW OUR LIMIT. IF IT GOES OVER $700, WE'RE DONE.
7.21
$500!
$600!
$700!
$750!!





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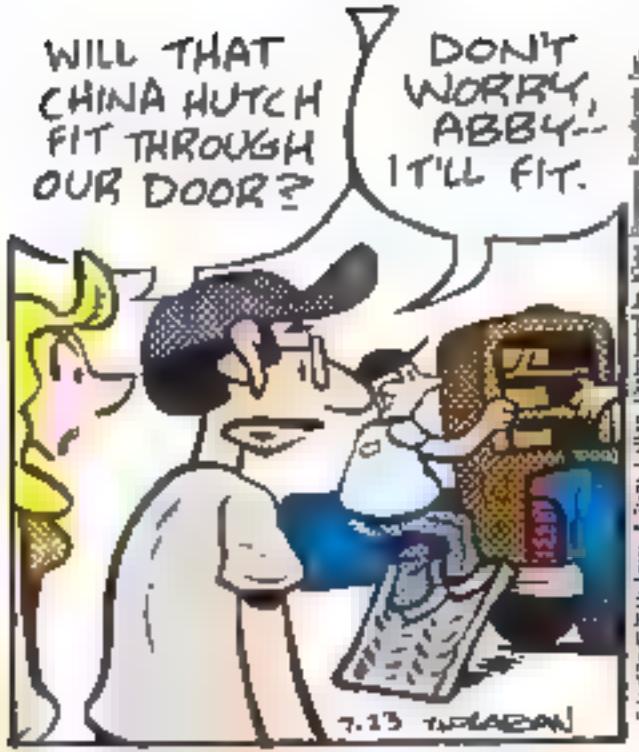
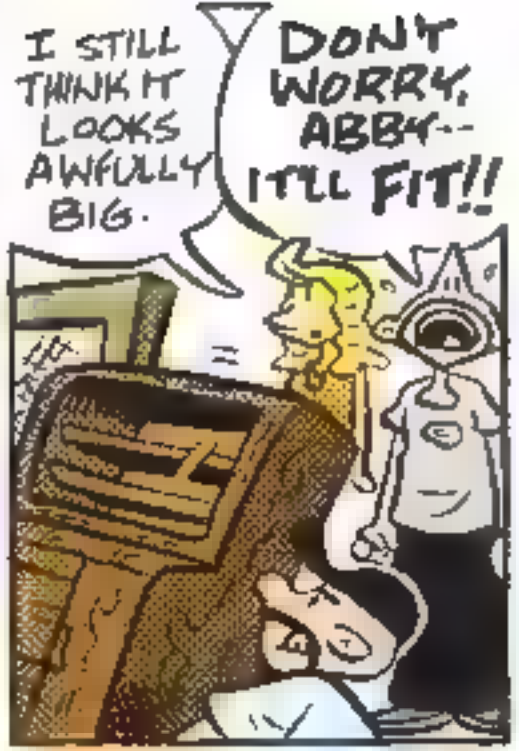
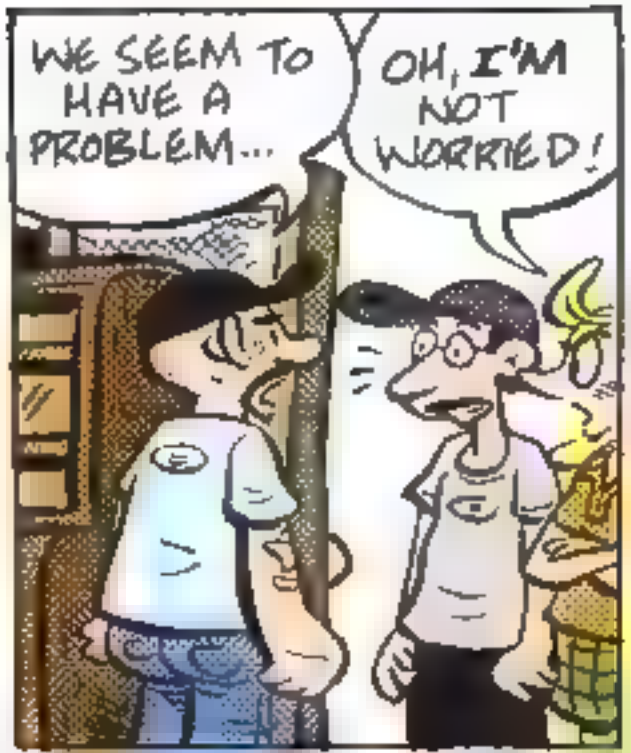
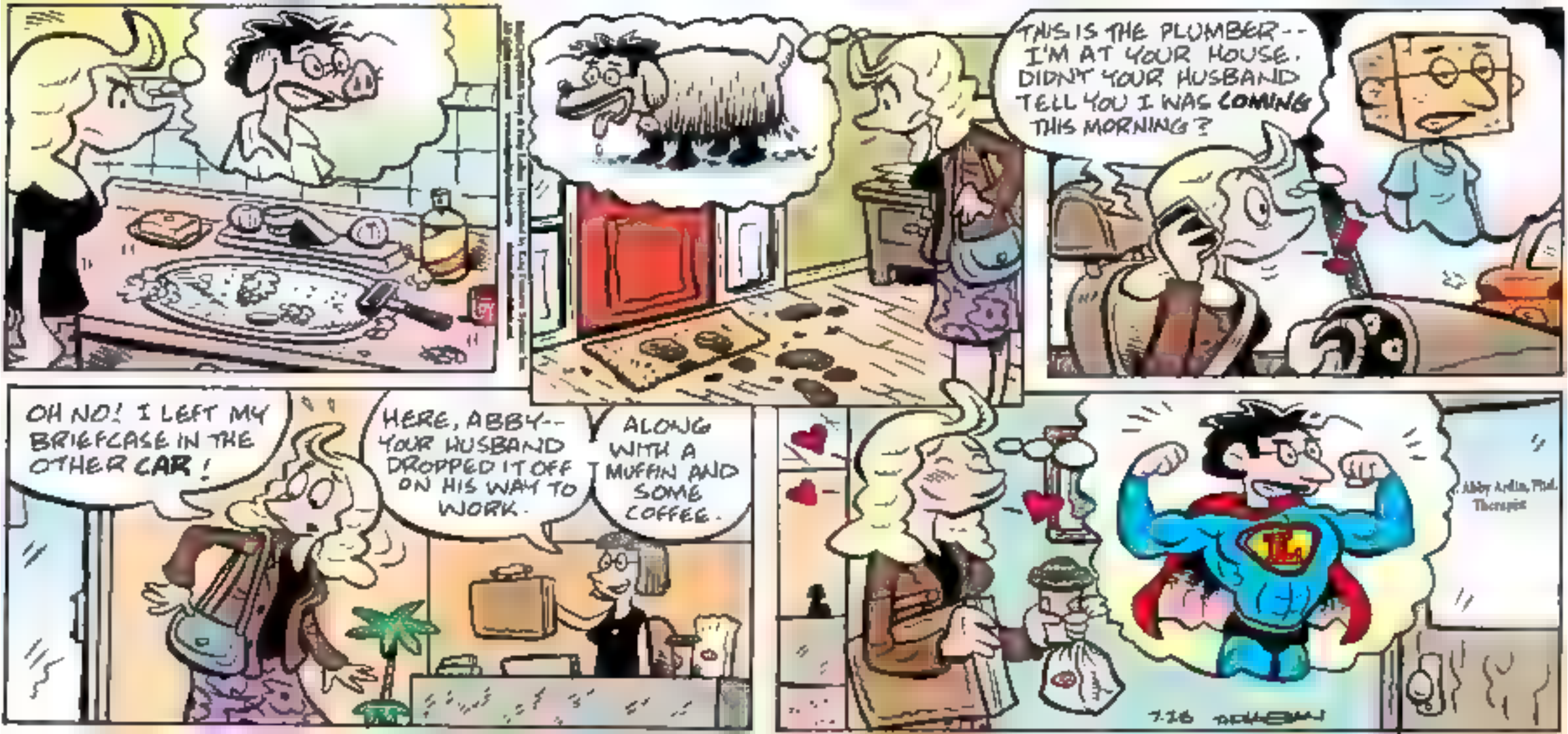

WILL THAT CHINA HUTCH FIT THROUGH OUR DOOR?
DON'T WORRY, ABBY-- IT'LL FIT.
7.13

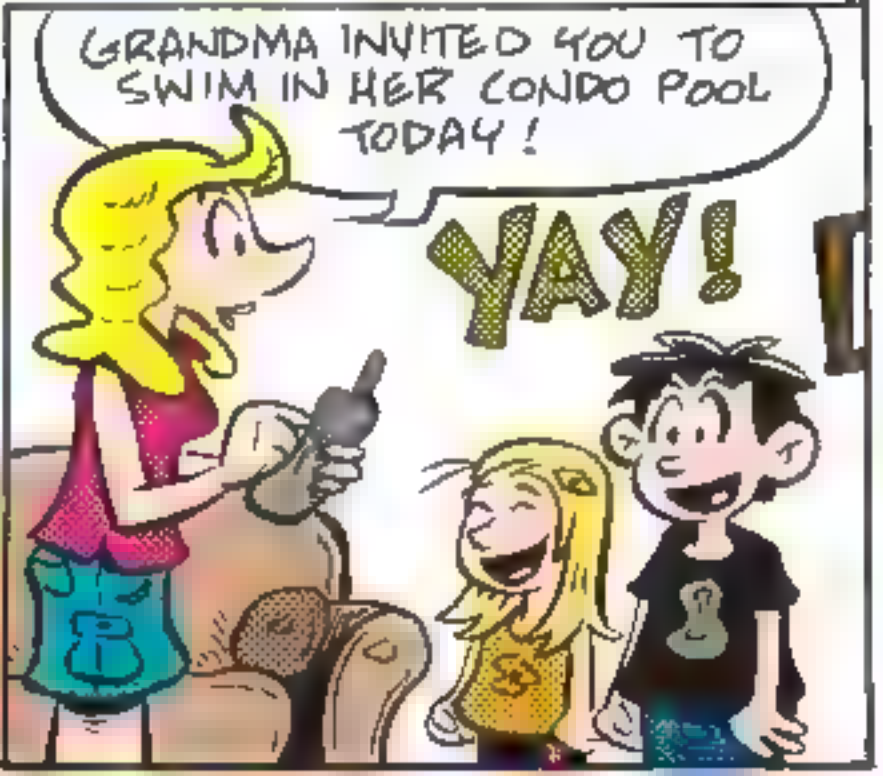
HOW DO YOU KNOW? YOU DIDN'T MEASURE IT!
DON'T WORRY, ABBY--IT'LL FIT!

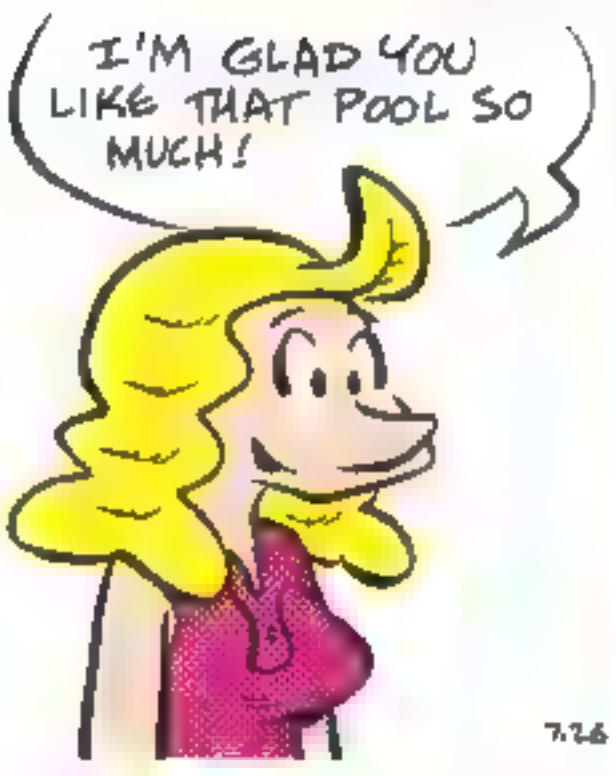

I STILL THINK IT LOOKS AWFULLY BIG.
DON'T WORRY, ABBY-- IT'LL FIT!!

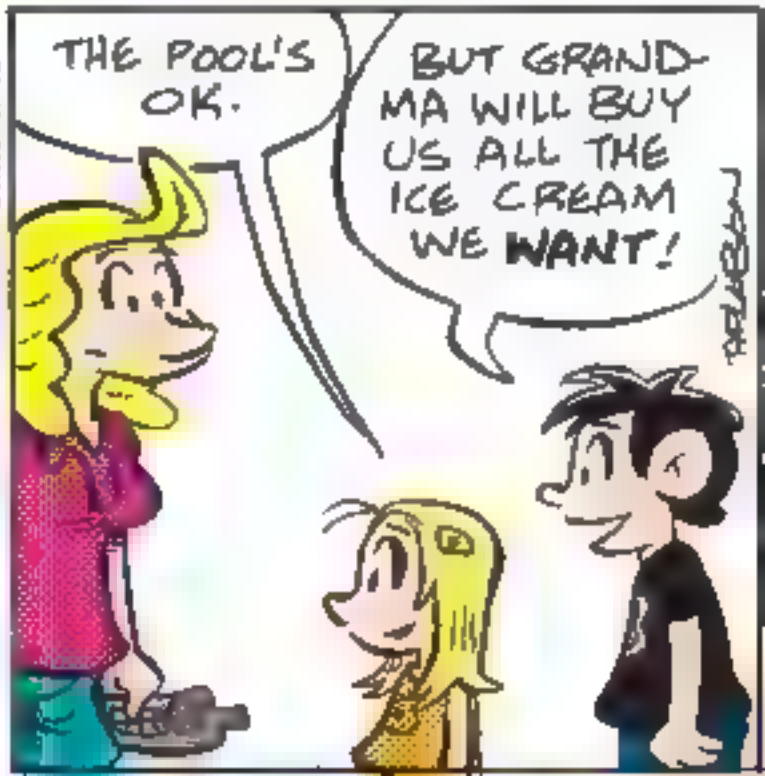

WE SEEM TO HAVE A PROBLEM...
OH, I'M NOT WORRIED!

UNBELIEVABLE! AFTER ALL THAT TIME AND MONEY, OUR NEW CHINA HUTCH WON'T FIT THROUGH THE DOOR?
OK--SO I MESSED UP.
WE'LL JUST RESELL IT AND FIND ANOTHER ONE.
NO MORE SCHLEPPING THROUGH ANTIQUE SHOPS! WE'RE GOING TO HIKEA!
I TOLD YOU--THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE GETTING A BLAND BUILD-IT-YOURSELF CHINA HUTCH FROM HIKEA!
7.24
"INSERT DOWEL B INTO SIDEPANELS H1-5..."
HIKEA
ÜRFO
1
3


THIS IS THE PLUMBER-- I'M AT YOUR HOUSE. DIDN'T YOUR HUSBAND TELL YOU I WAS COMING THIS MORNING?
OH NO! I LEFT MY BRIEFCASE IN THE OTHER CAR!
HERE, ABBY-- YOUR HUSBAND DROPPED IT OFF ON HIS WAY TO WORK.
ALONG WITH A MUFFIN AND SOME COFFEE.
Abby Arlin, Phd. Therapist







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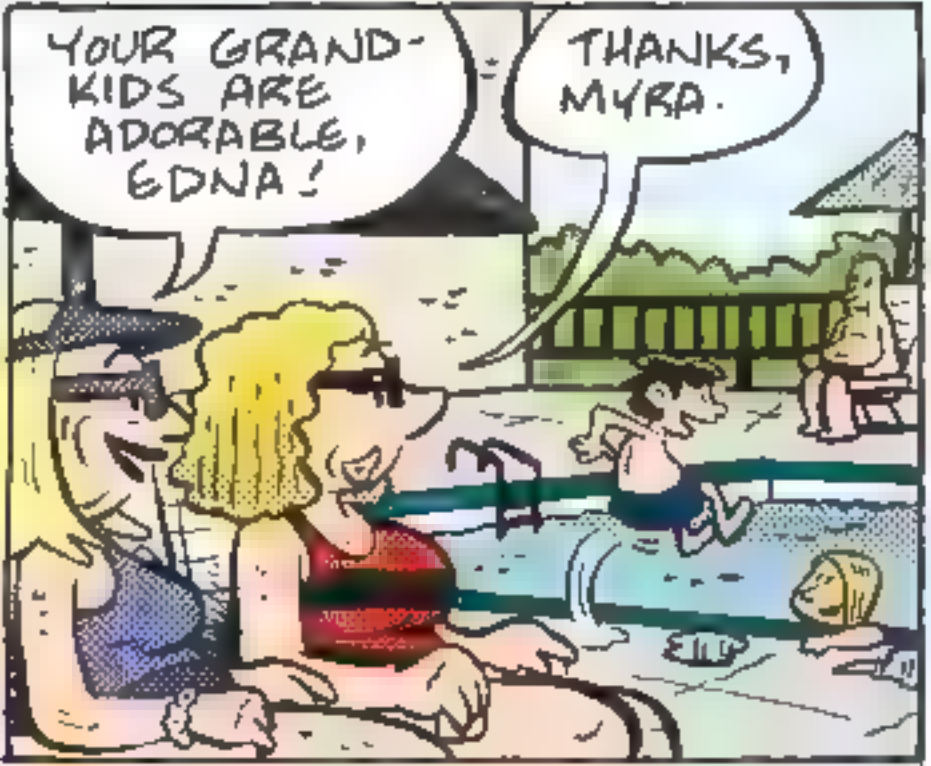
7.26



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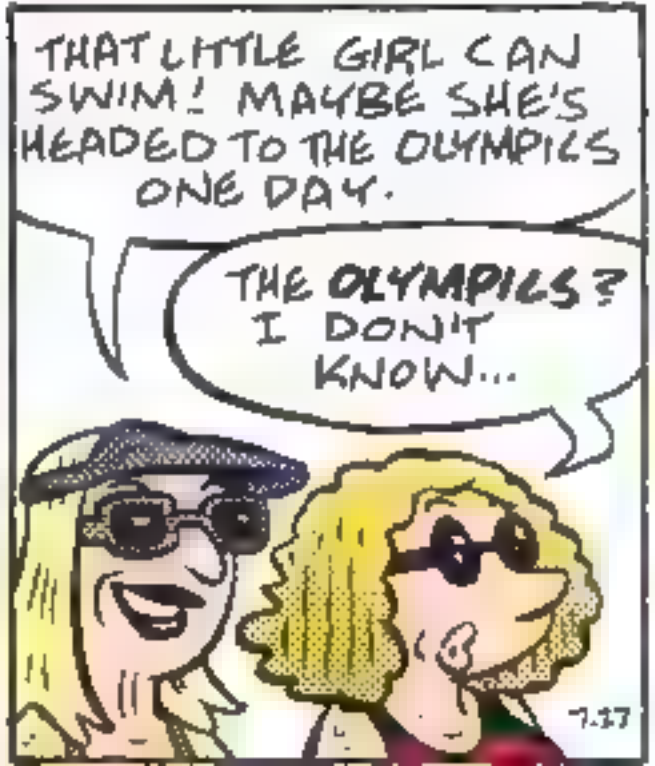

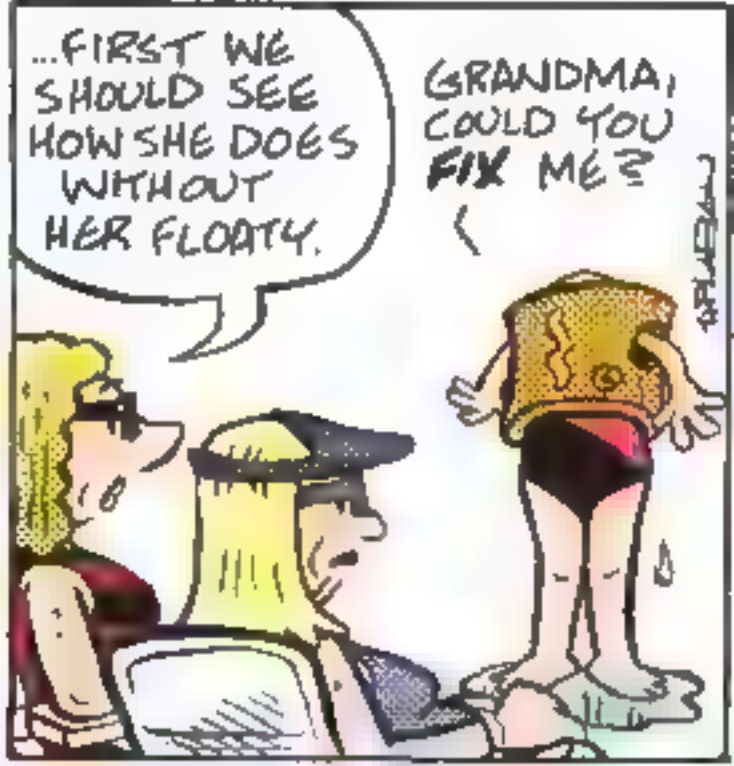

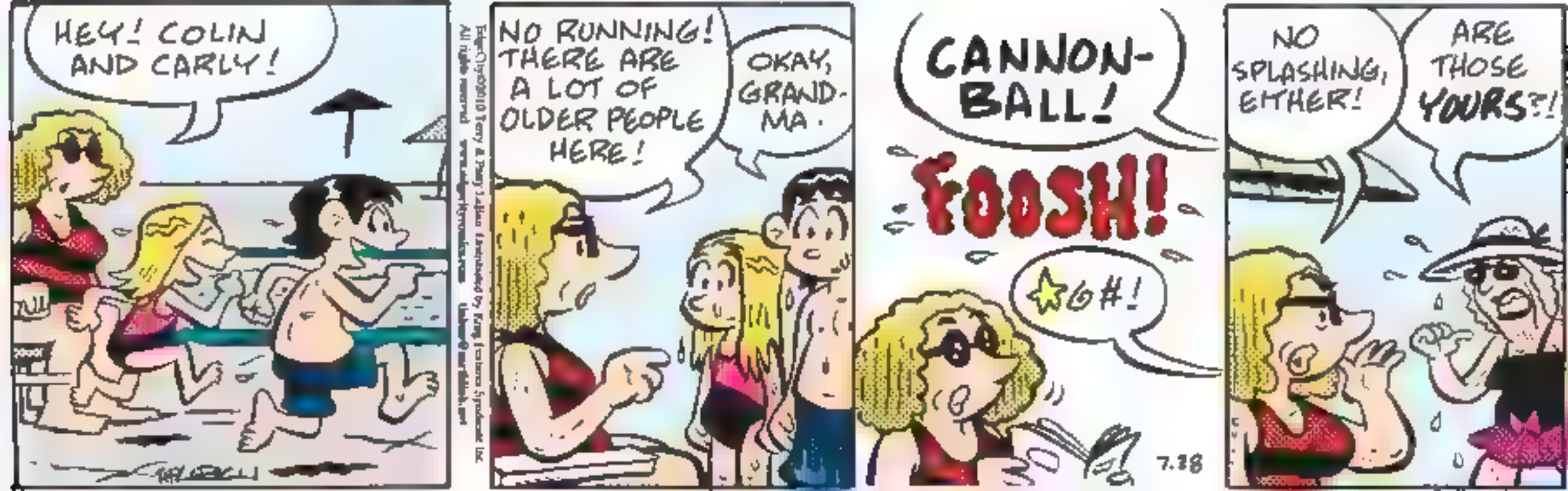

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YOUR GRAND-KIDS JUST **SPLASHED** ME!

I SAW IT! COLIN! CARLY!

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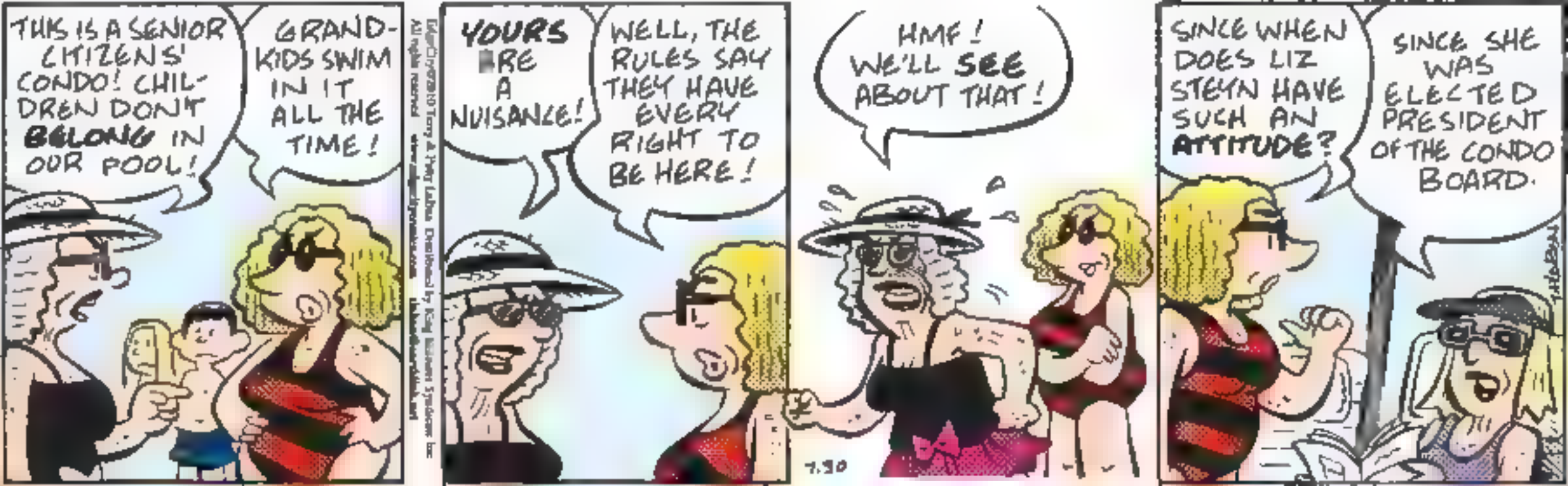
APOLOGIZE TO THIS LADY!

WE'RE SORRY.

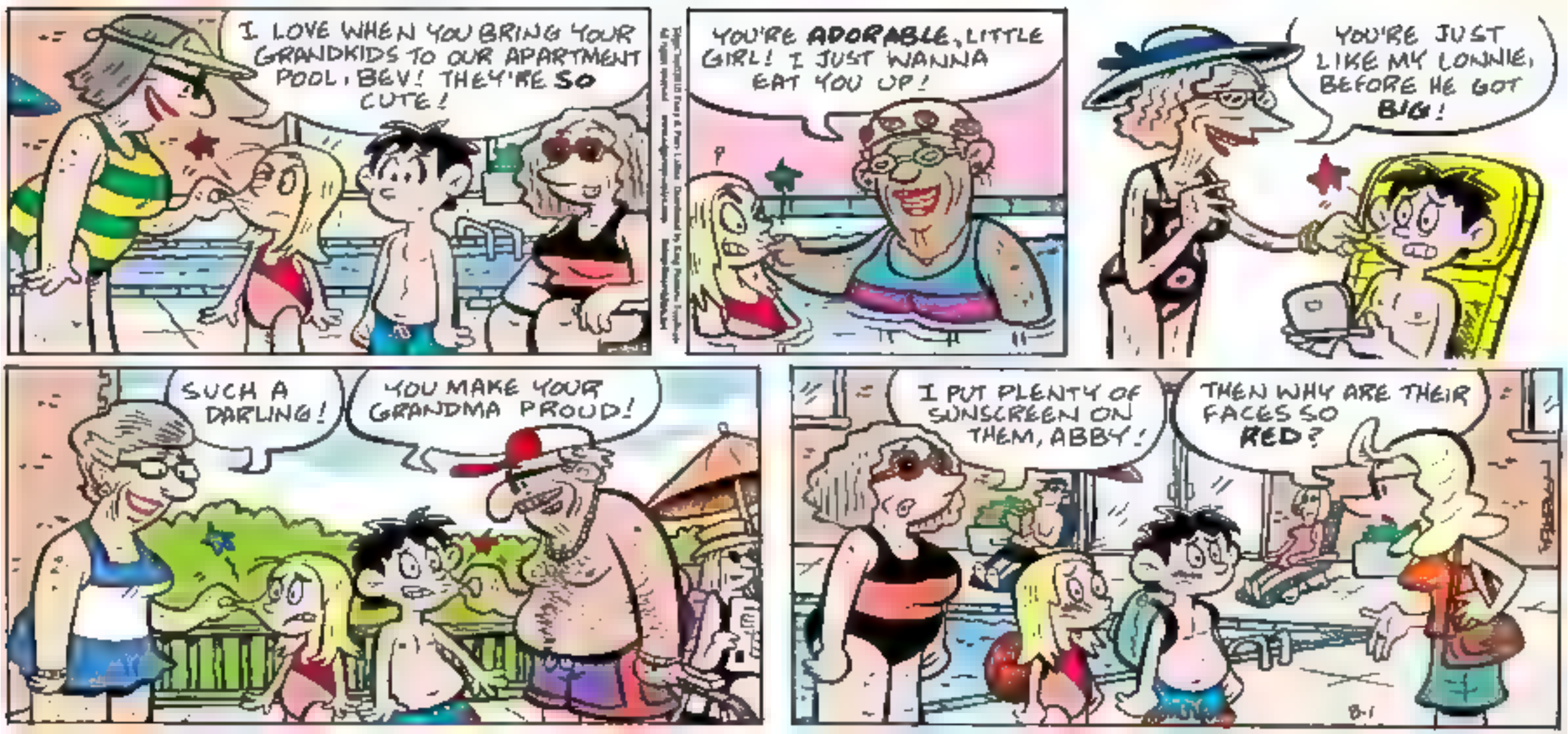
HMF! "SORRY" ISN'T **GOOD** ENOUGH!

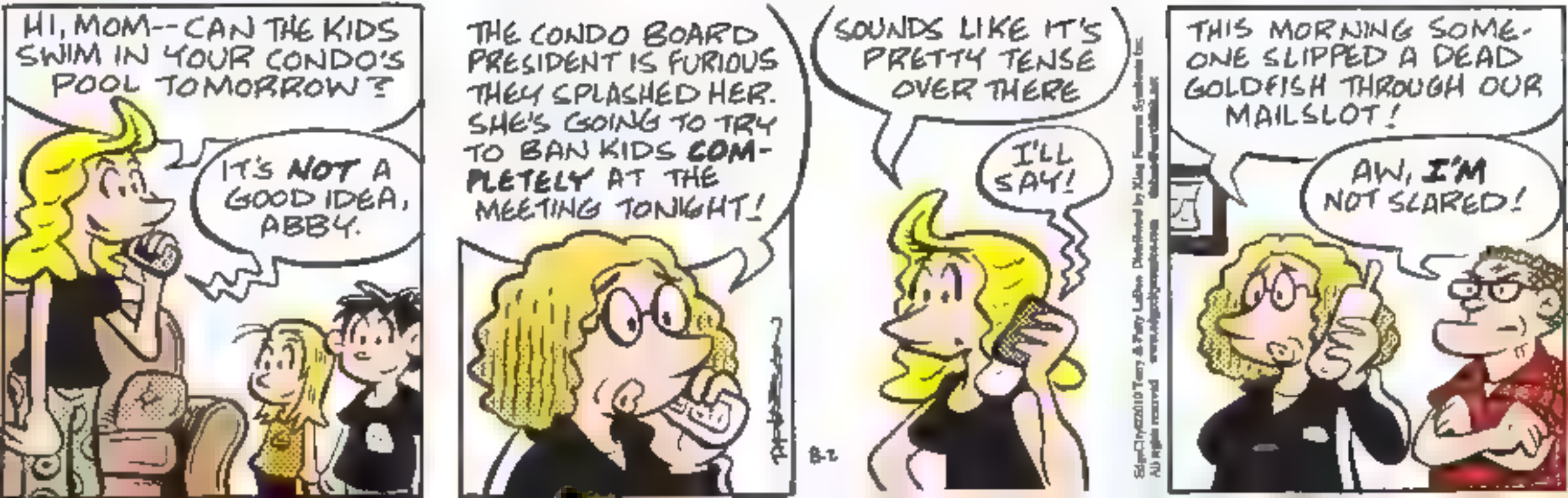
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T SUE CHILDREN, RIGHT?

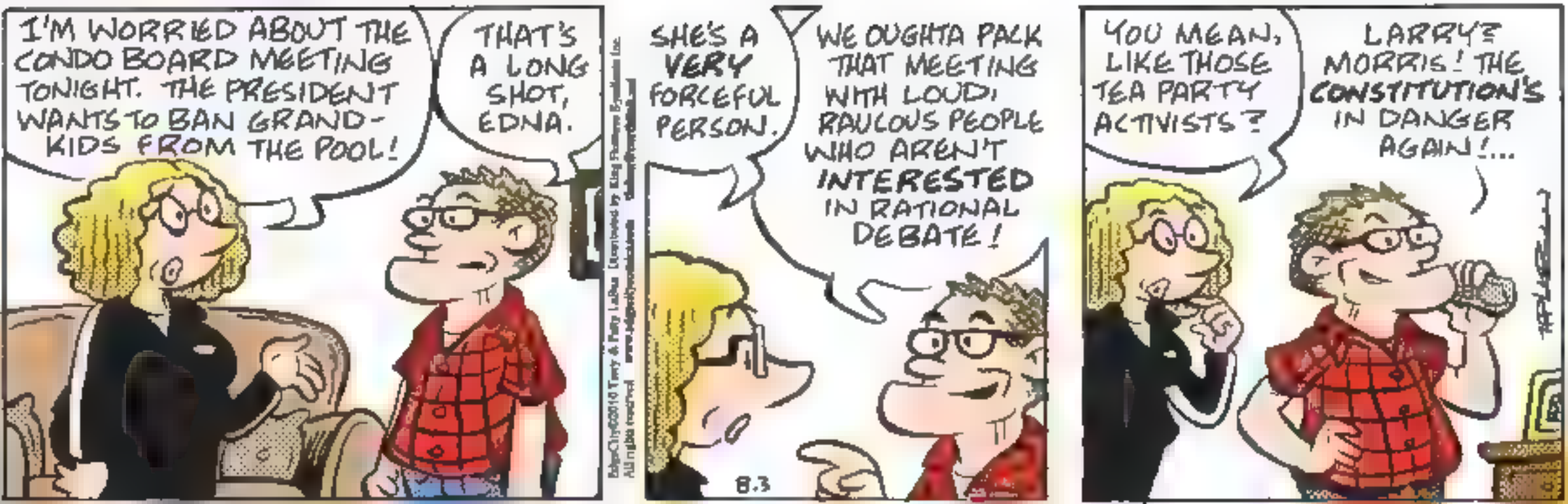
I MEAN, I WANT THEM **OUT**!

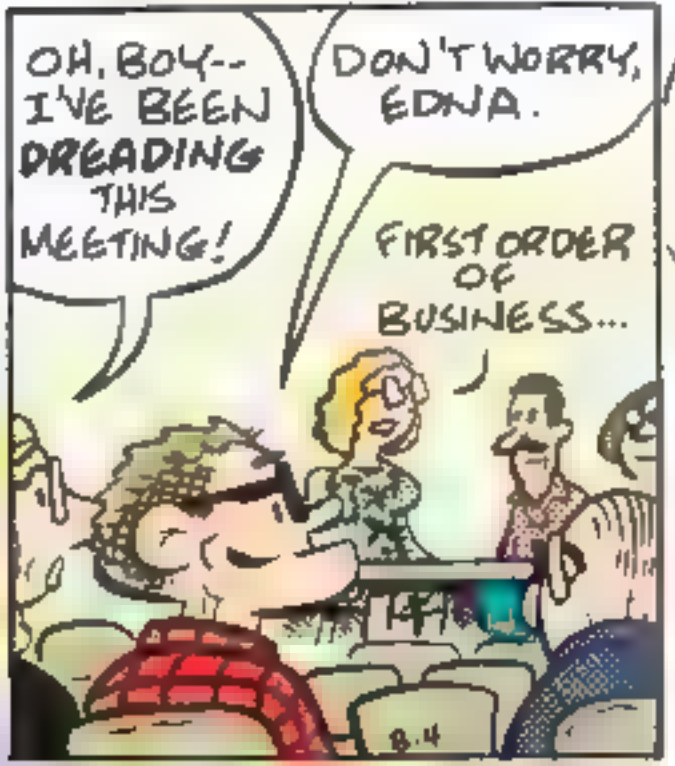

THIS IS A SENIOR CITIZENS' CONDO! CHILDREN DON'T BELONG IN OUR POOL!
GRANDKIDS SWIM IN IT ALL THE TIME!
YOURS ARE A NUISANCE!
WELL, THE RULES SAY THEY HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE HERE!
HMF! WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
SINCE WHEN DOES LIZ STEYN HAVE SUCH AN ATTITUDE?
SINCE SHE WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE CONDO BOARD.

HI, MOM! HOW WAS YOUR DAY AT THE CONDO POOL?
THE KIDS WERE VERY BUSY, ABBY.
THEY SWAM, READ, HAD LUNCH, ATE ICE CREAM...
...DID A CANNONBALL AND SOAKED THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONDO BOARD...
OOH! IS THAT BAD?
7-31


I LOVE WHEN YOU BRING YOUR GRANDKIDS TO OUR APARTMENT POOL, BEV! THEY'RE SO CUTE!
YOU'RE ADORABLE, LITTLE GIRL! I JUST WANNA EAT YOU UP!
YOU'RE JUST LIKE MY LONNIE, BEFORE HE GOT BIG!
SUCH A DARLING!
YOU MAKE YOUR GRANDMA PROUD!
I PUT PLENTY OF SUNSCREEN ON THEM, ABBY!
THEN WHY ARE THEIR FACES SO RED?


HI, MOM--CAN THE KIDS SWIM IN YOUR CONDO'S POOL TOMORROW?
IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA, ABBY.
THE CONDO BOARD PRESIDENT IS FURIOUS THEY SPLASHED HER. SHE'S GOING TO TRY TO BAN KIDS COMPLETELY AT THE MEETING TONIGHT!
SOUNDS LIKE IT'S PRETTY TENSE OVER THERE
I'LL SAY!
THIS MORNING SOMEONE SLIPPED A DEAD GOLDFISH THROUGH OUR MAILSLOT!
AW, I'M NOT SCARED!


I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE CONDO BOARD MEETING TONIGHT. THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO BAN GRAND-KIDS FROM THE POOL!
THAT'S A LONG SHOT, EDNA.
SHE'S A VERY FORCEFUL PERSON.
WE OUGHTA PACK THAT MEETING WITH LOUD, RAUCOUS PEOPLE WHO AREN'T INTERESTED IN RATIONAL DEBATE!
8.3
YOU MEAN, LIKE THOSE TEA PARTY ACTIVISTS?
LARRY? MORRIS! THE CONSTITUTION'S IN DANGER AGAIN!...

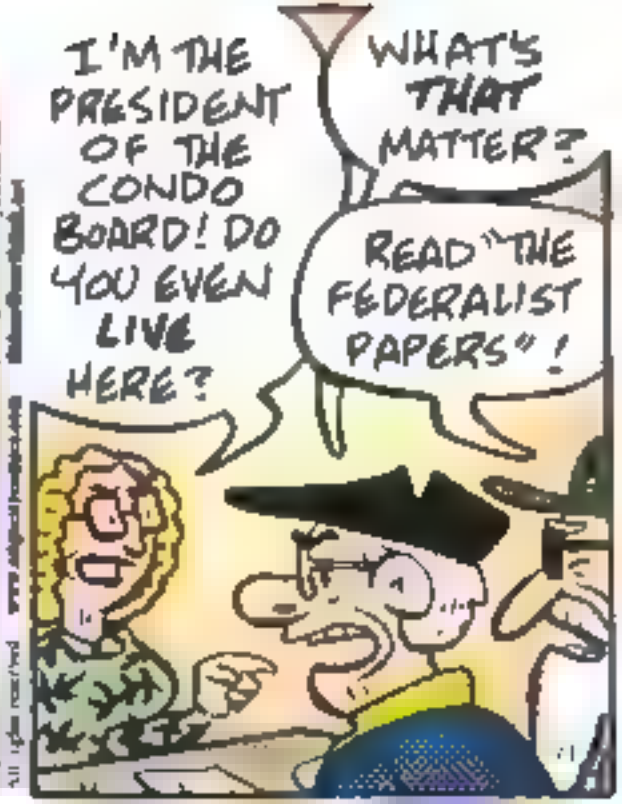

OH, BOY-- I'VE BEEN DREADING THIS MEETING!
DON'T WORRY, EDNA.
FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS...

AS THIS IS A SENIOR CITIZENS' CONDO, I MOVE THAT NO CHILD UNDER 15 BE ALLOWED IN THE POOL!

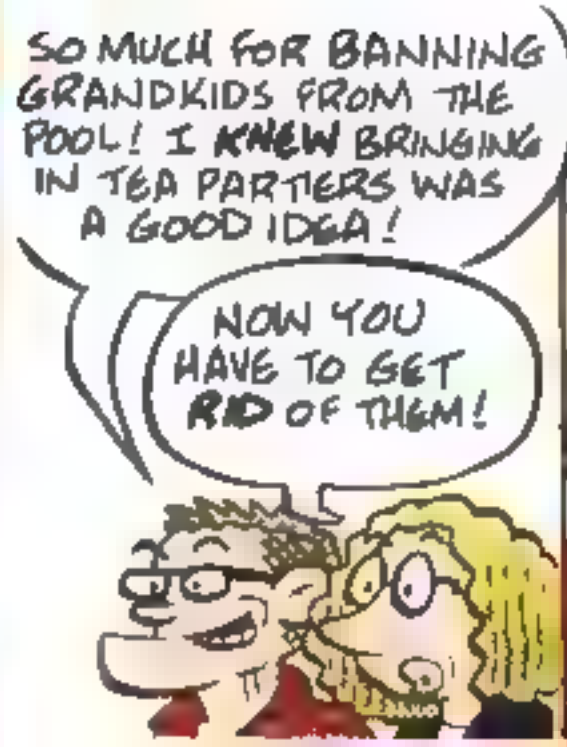
BOO!
STAND DOWN!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

HEH! RIGHT ON TIME!
NO EXPULSION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION!
TAKE OUR CONDO BACK

MORRIS AND EDNA'S CONDO BOARD PRESIDENT WANTS TO BAN GRANDKIDS FROM THE POOL--

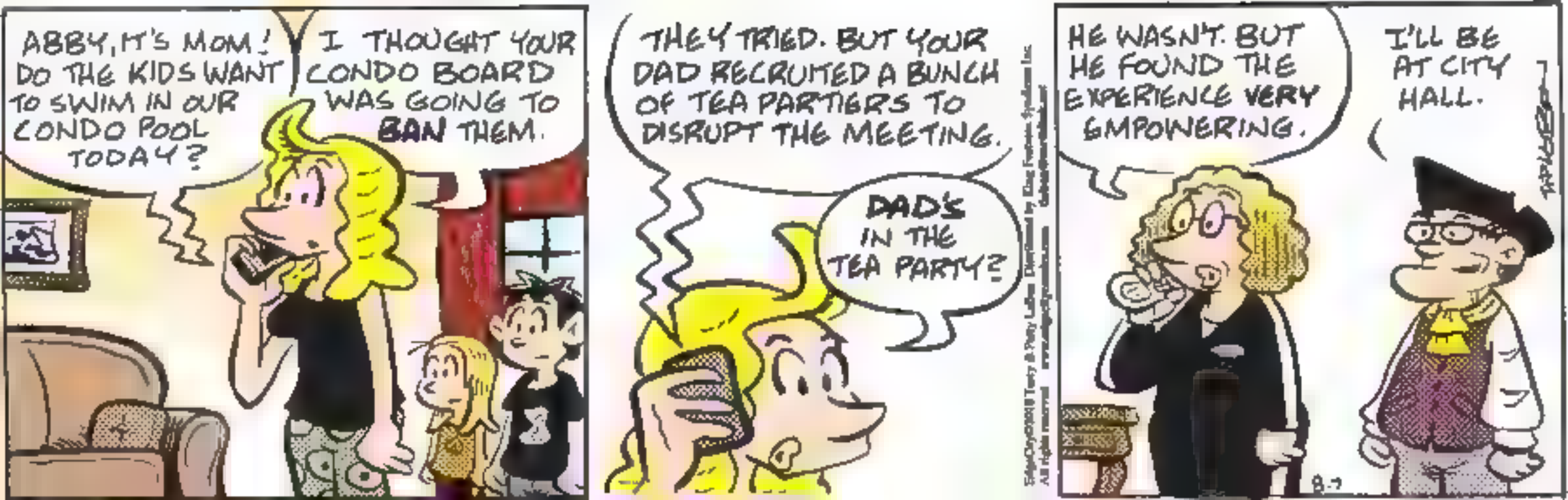


I'VE HAD IT! THIS BOARD MEETING IS ADJOURNED!
YAY!
NO MON
DON'T TREAD ON ME

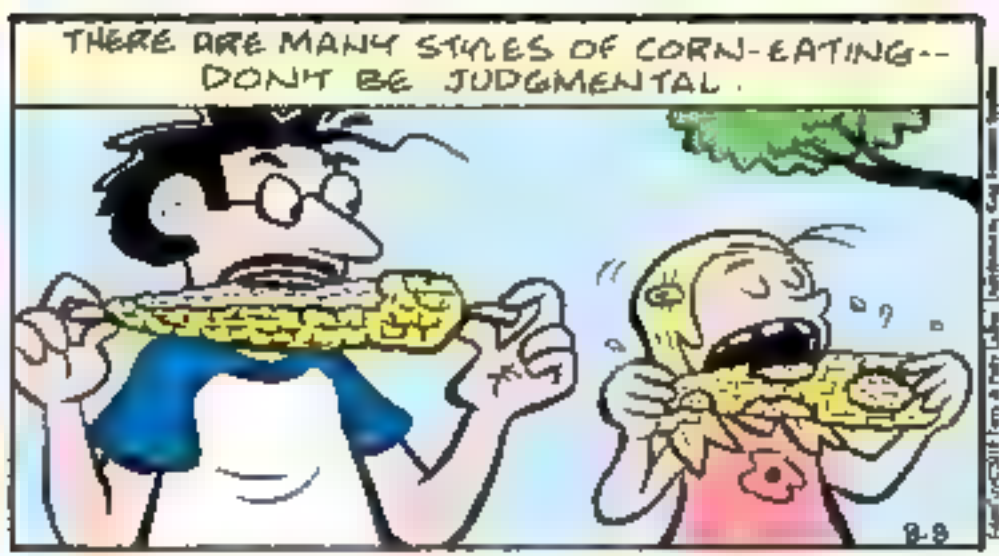

SO MUCH FOR BANNING GRANDKIDS FROM THE POOL! I KNEW BRINGING IN TEA PARTIERS WAS A GOOD IDEA!
NOW YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF THEM!

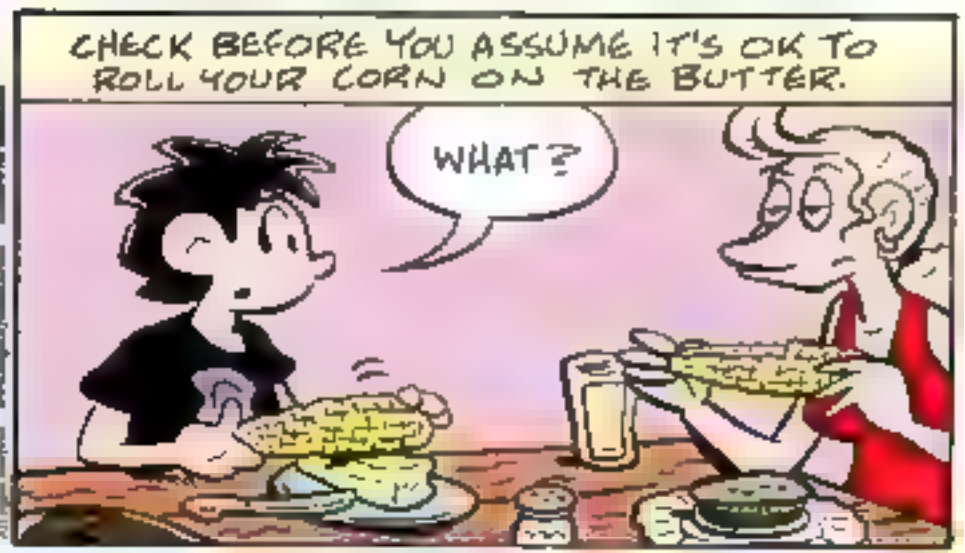
HEY! THE LIGHTS ARE ON IN OUR CONGRESSMAN'S OFFICE!

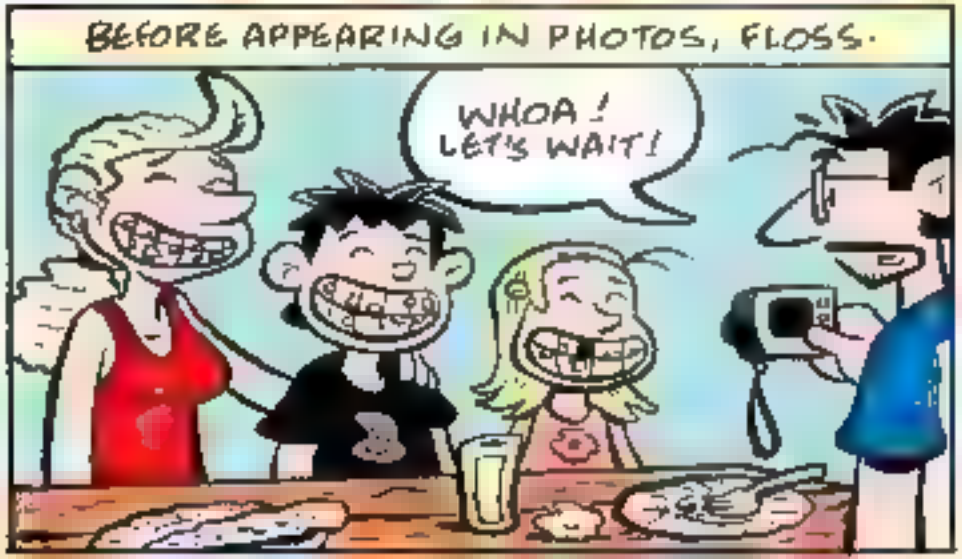
GET 'EM!
WOO HOO!
NO PROBLEM.
ZIP!

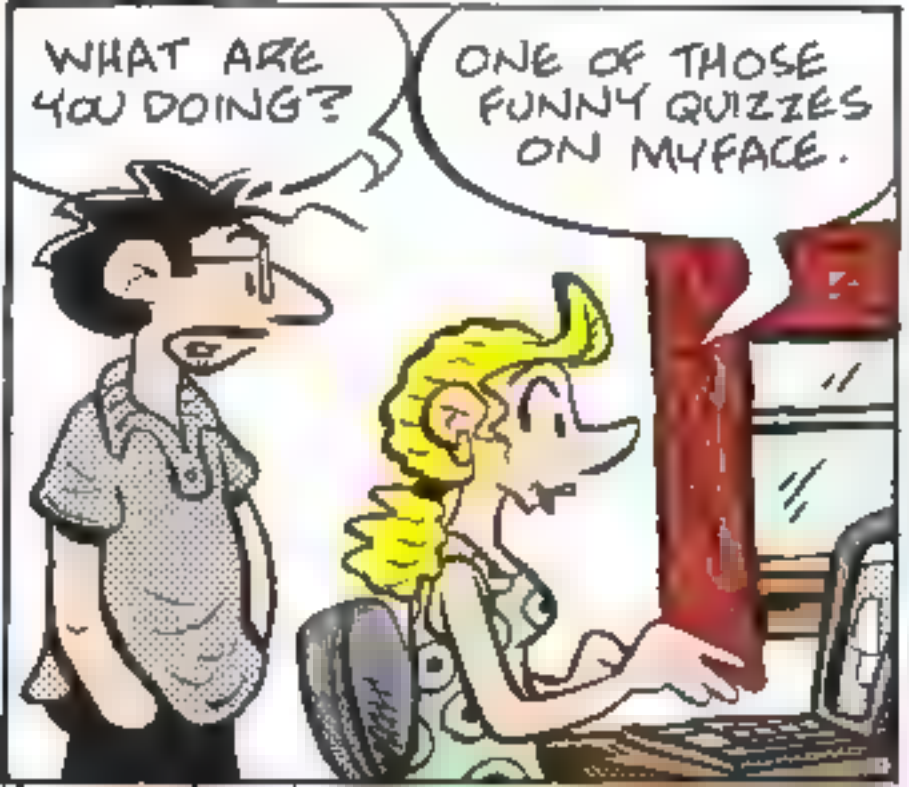

ABBY, IT'S MOM! DO THE KIDS WANT TO SWIM IN OUR CONDO POOL TODAY?
I THOUGHT YOUR CONDO BOARD WAS GOING TO BAN THEM.
THEY TRIED. BUT YOUR DAD RECRUITED A BUNCH OF TEA PARTIERS TO DISRUPT THE MEETING.
DAD'S IN THE TEA PARTY?
HE WASN'T. BUT HE FOUND THE EXPERIENCE VERY EMPOWERING.
I'LL BE AT CITY HALL.

AUGUST TIPS for CORN









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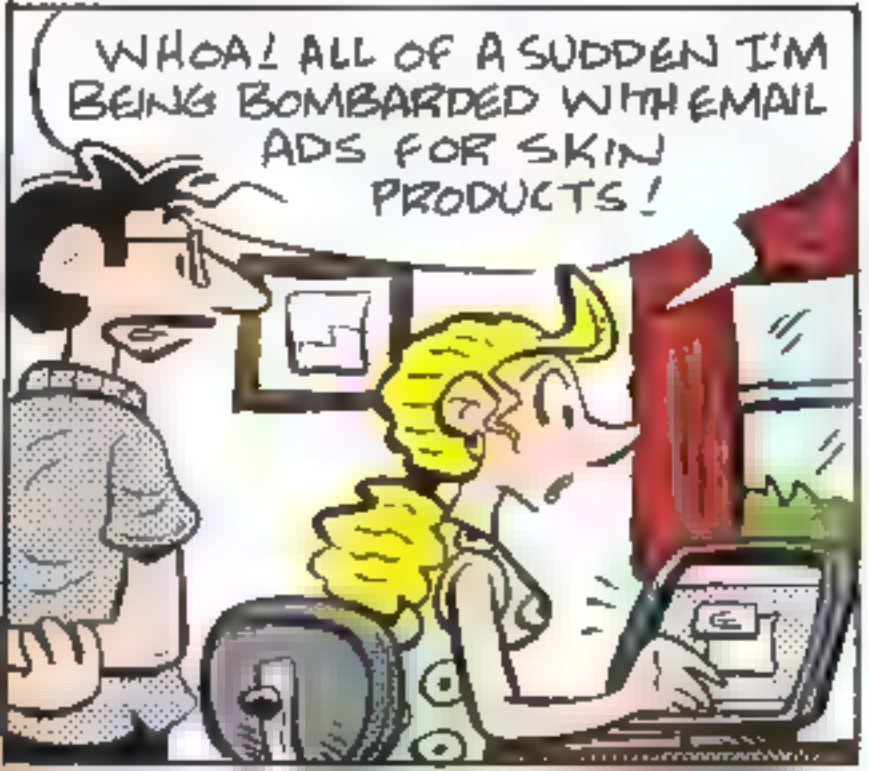

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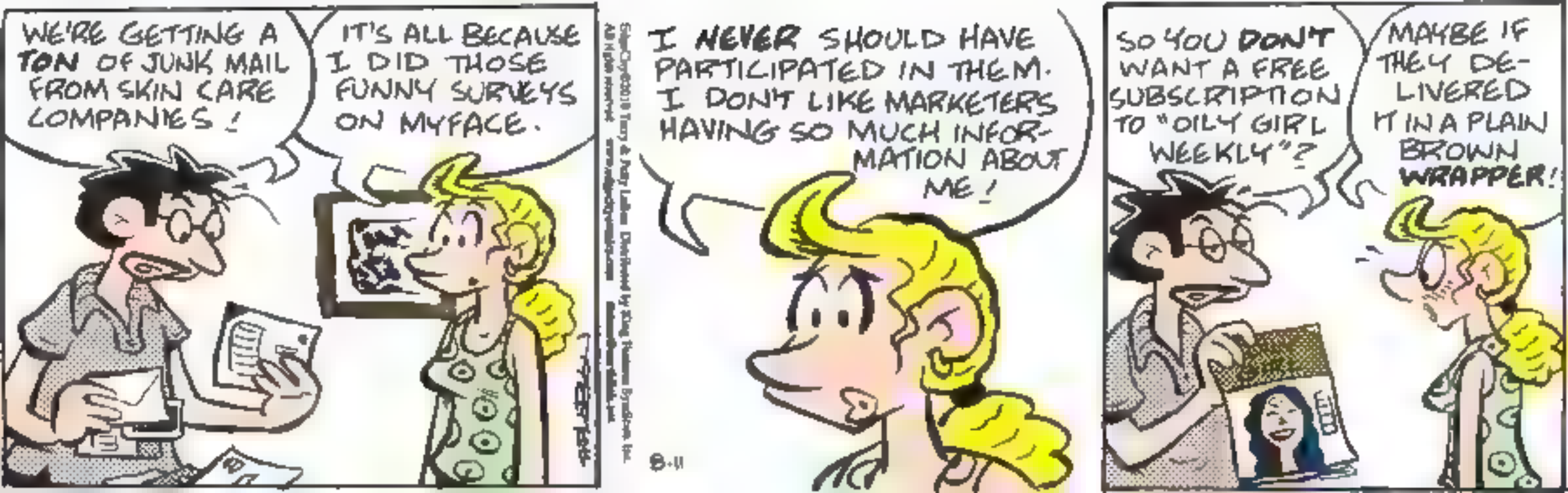
WE'RE GETTING A TON OF JUNK MAIL FROM SKIN CARE COMPANIES!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE I DID THOSE FUNNY SURVEYS ON MYFACE.
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THEM. I DON'T LIKE MARKETERS HAVING SO MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT ME!
SO YOU DON'T WANT A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO "OILY GIRL WEEKLY"?
MAYBE IF THEY DELIVERED IT IN A PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER!

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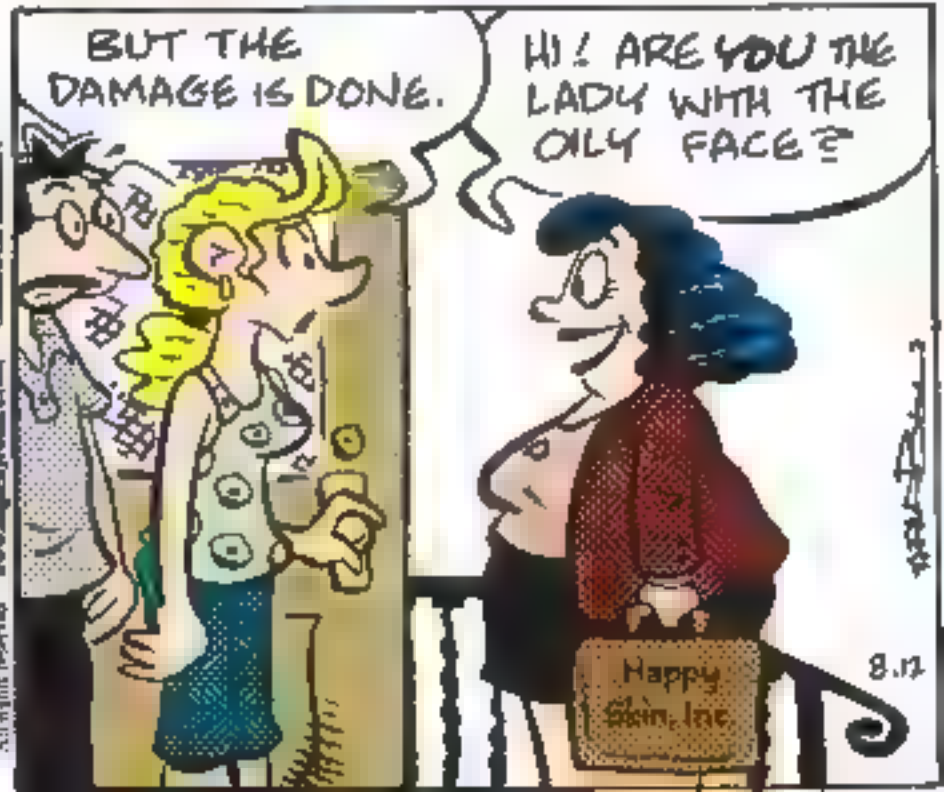
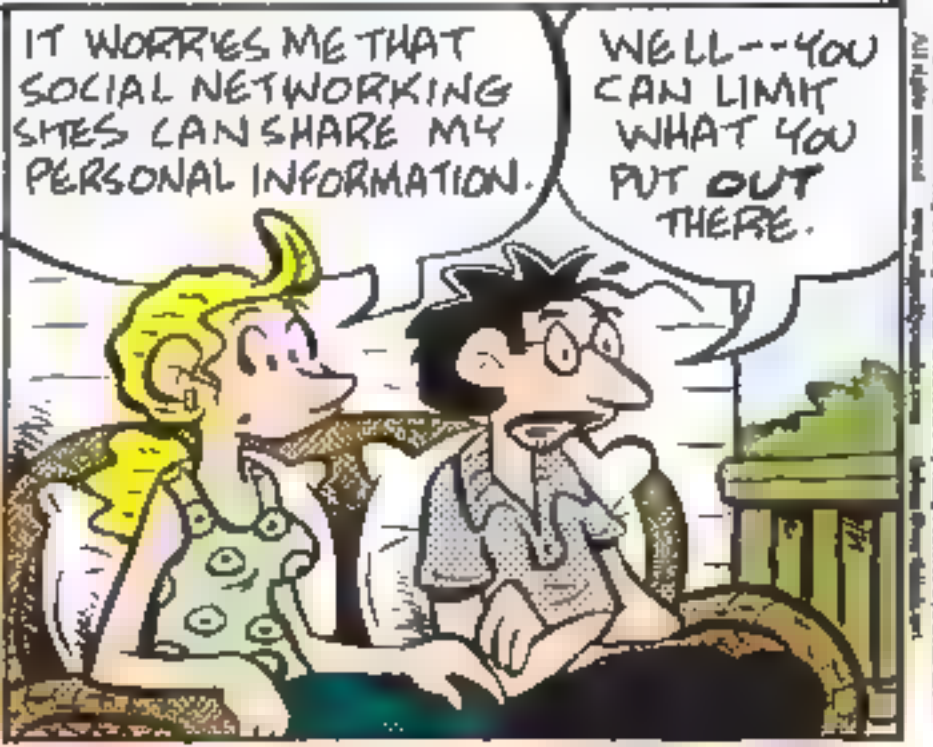
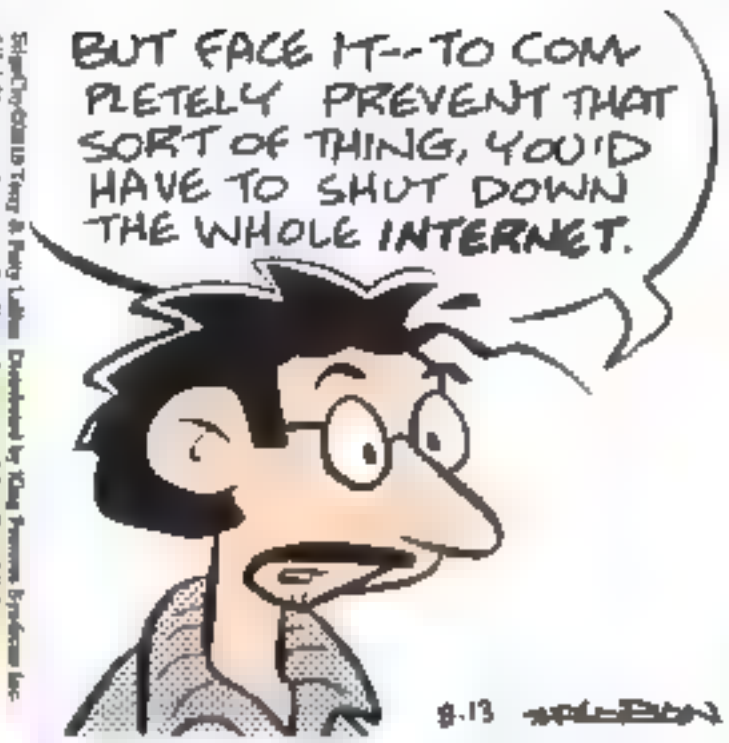
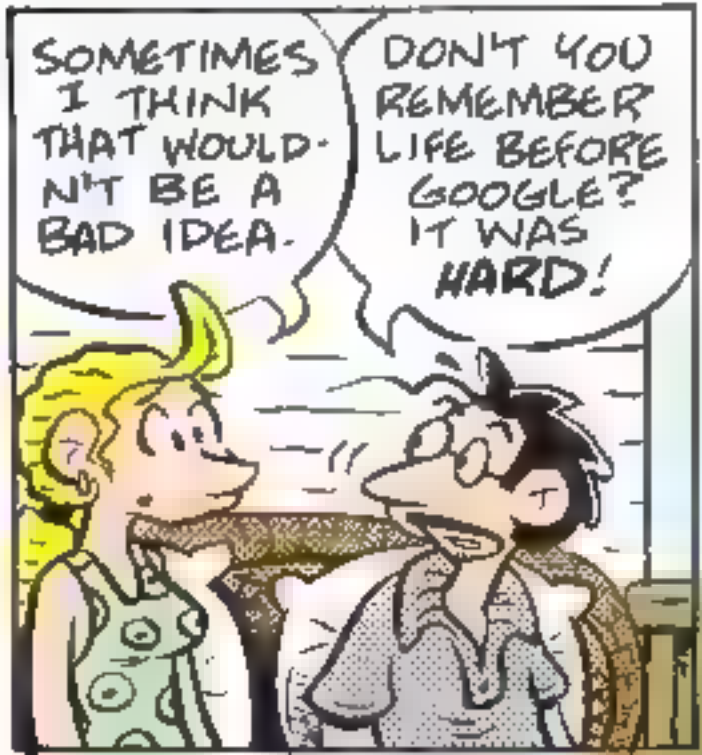
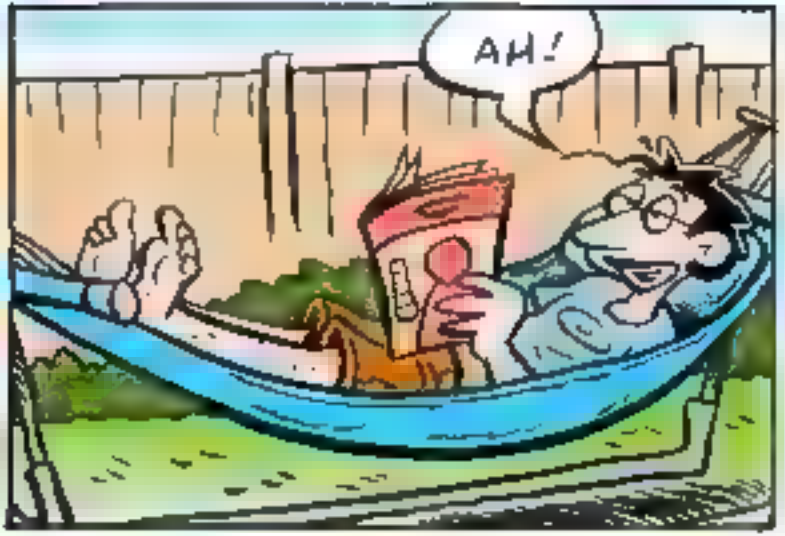


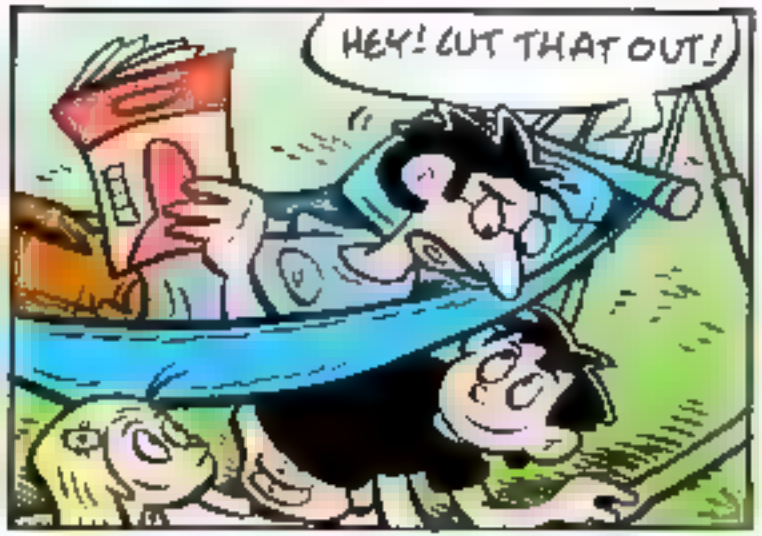

IT WORRIES ME THAT SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES CAN SHARE MY PERSONAL INFORMATION.
WELL--YOU CAN LIMIT WHAT YOU PUT OUT THERE.


BUT FACE IT--TO COMPLETELY PREVENT THAT SORT OF THING, YOU'D HAVE TO SHUT DOWN THE WHOLE INTERNET.
8-13

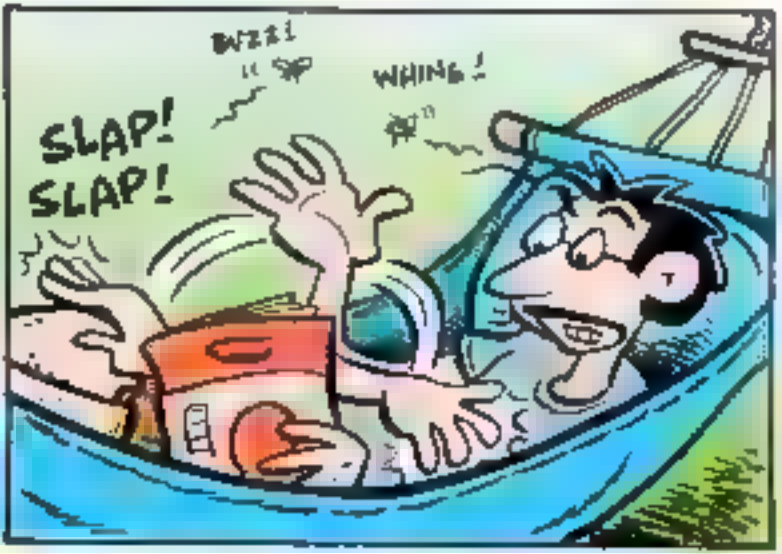

SOMETIMES I THINK THAT WOULDN'T BE A BAD IDEA.
DON'T YOU REMEMBER LIFE BEFORE GOOGLE? IT WAS HARD!

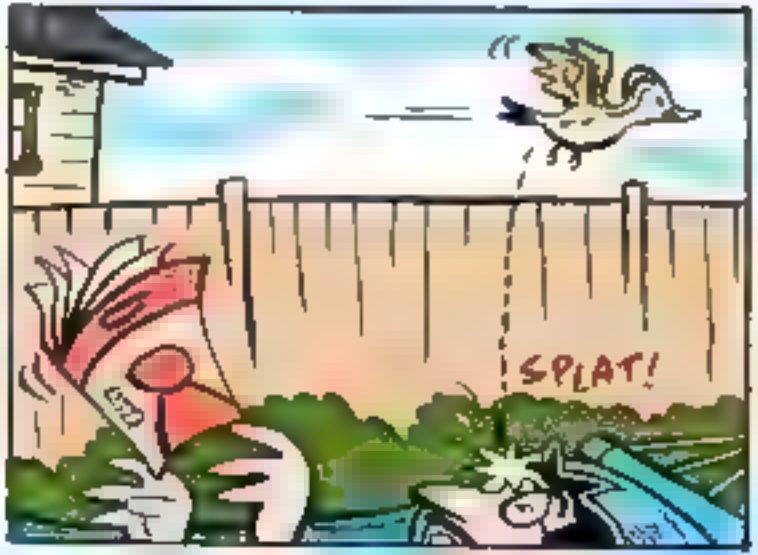
I'M SICK OF GETTING SOLICITATIONS FOR SKIN CARE PRODUCTS!
I'M GOING TO CONTACT SOME OF THESE ADVERTISERS AND TRY TO GET MY NAME OFF THEIR MAILING LISTS.
OUR OPERATORS ARE BUSY NOW. PLEASE STAY ON THE LINE FOR THE NEXT AVAILABLE ASSISTANT.
S...
Zzz...
8-14

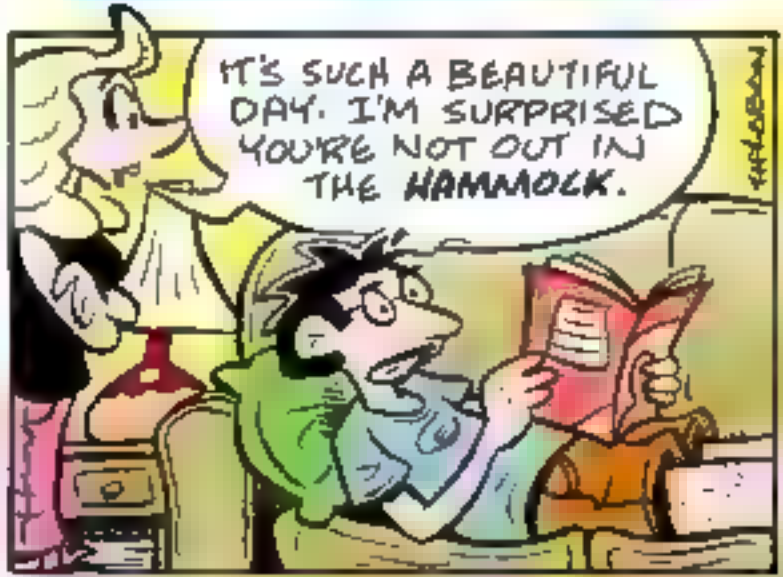

AH!

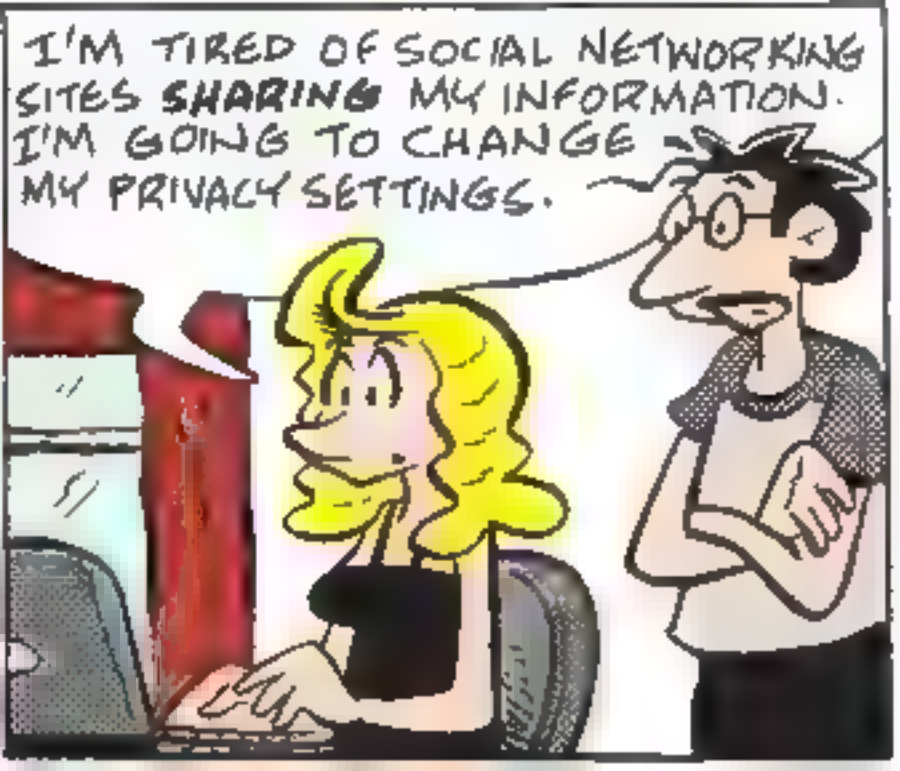

HEY! CUT THAT OUT!

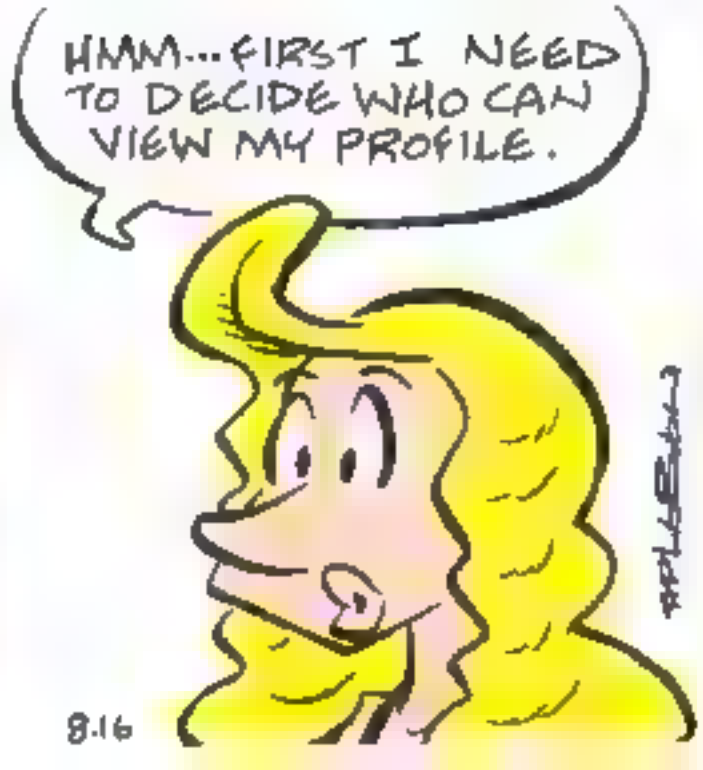
8-15

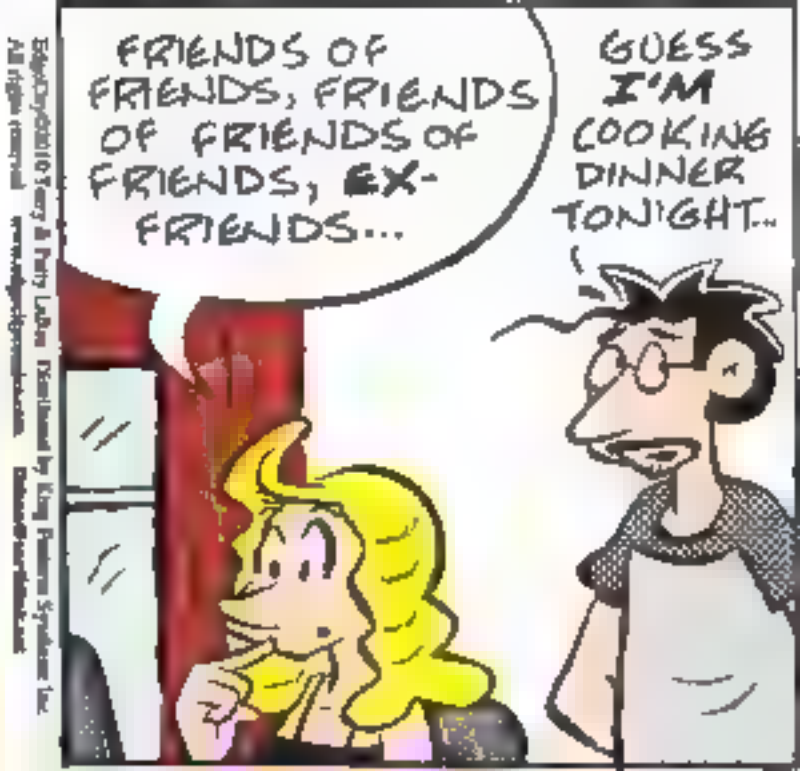

SLAP!
SLAP!
BZZZ!
WHING!

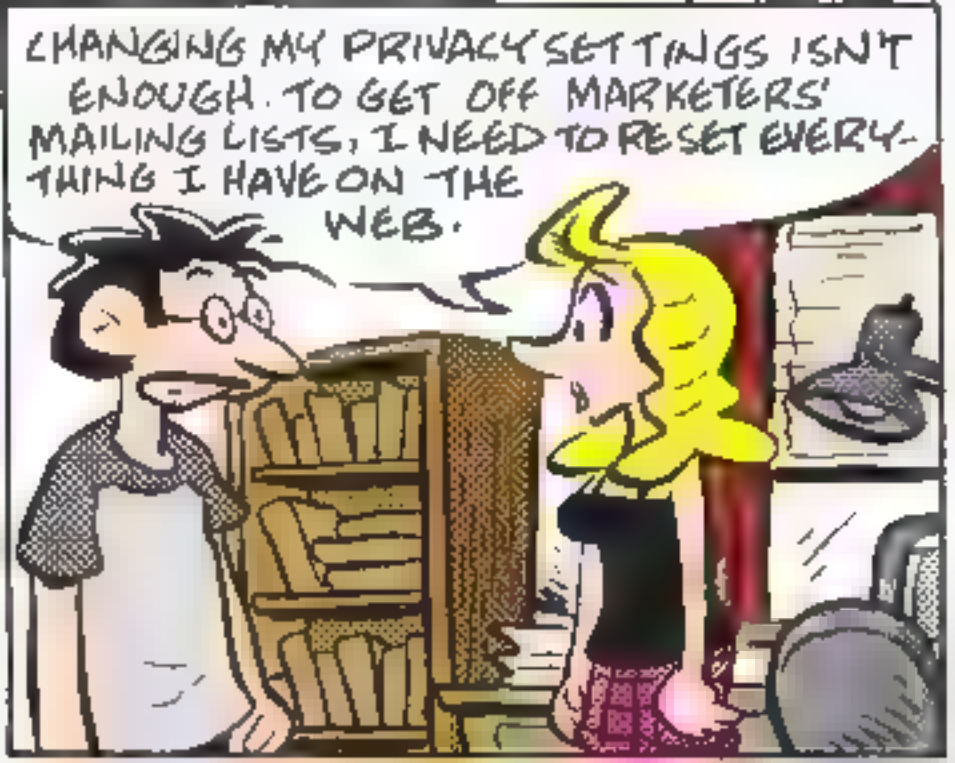

SPLAT!


IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL DAY. I'M SURPRISED YOU'RE NOT OUT IN THE HAMMOCK.


I'M TIRED OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES **SHARING** MY INFORMATION. I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY PRIVACY SETTINGS.


HMM... FIRST I NEED TO DECIDE WHO CAN VIEW MY PROFILE.
8.16


FRIENDS OF FRIENDS, FRIENDS OF FRIENDS OF FRIENDS, **EX**-FRIENDS...
GUESS **I'M** COOKING DINNER TONIGHT...



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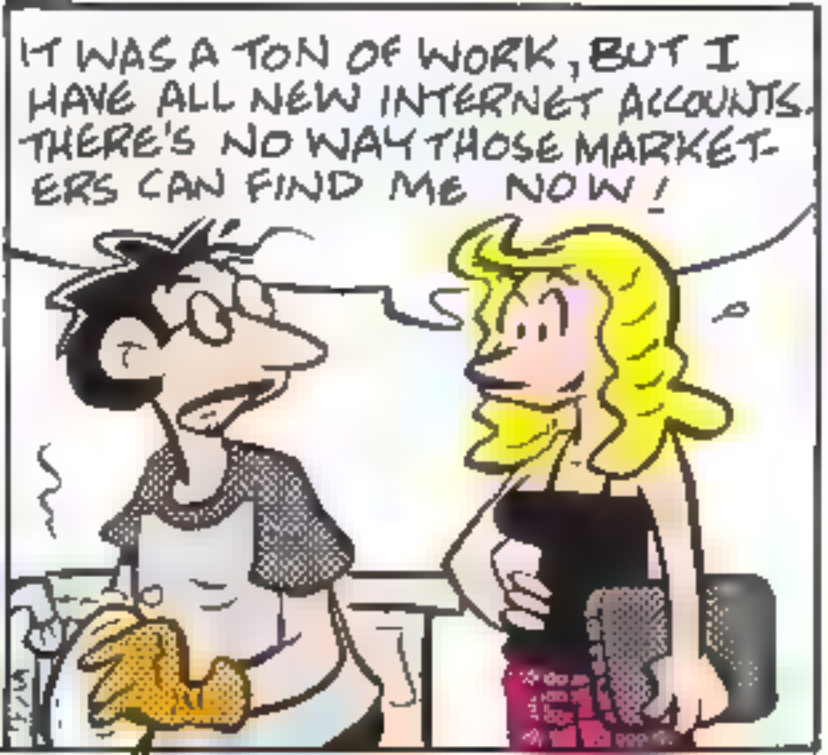

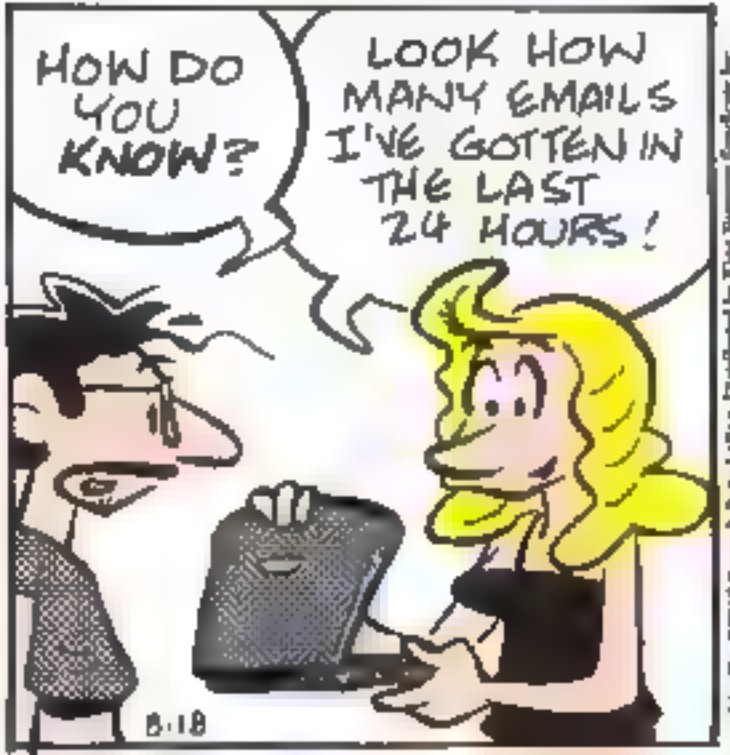

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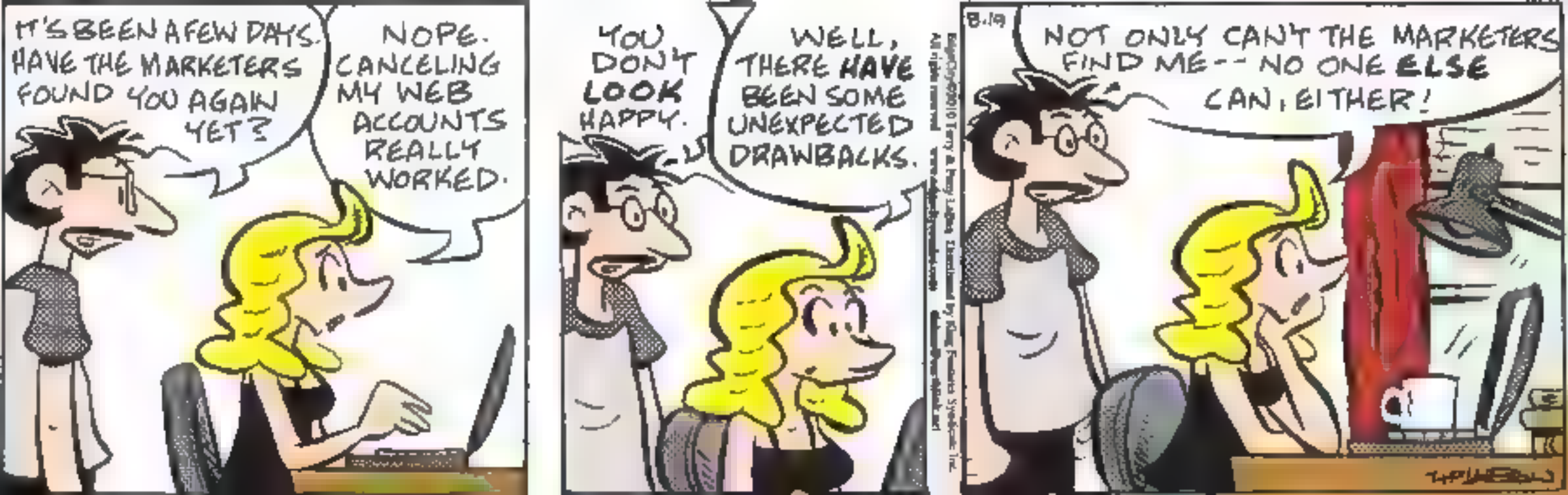
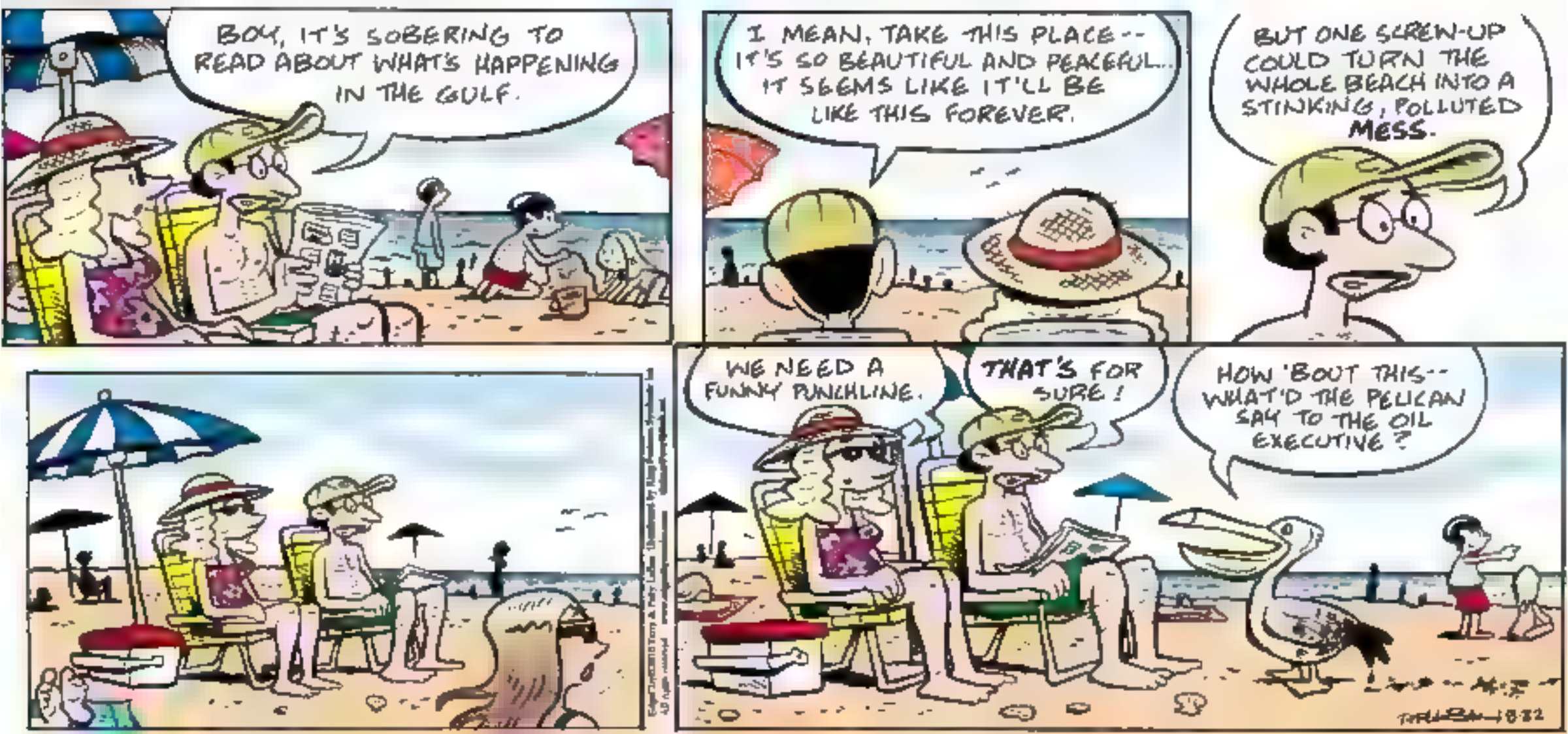
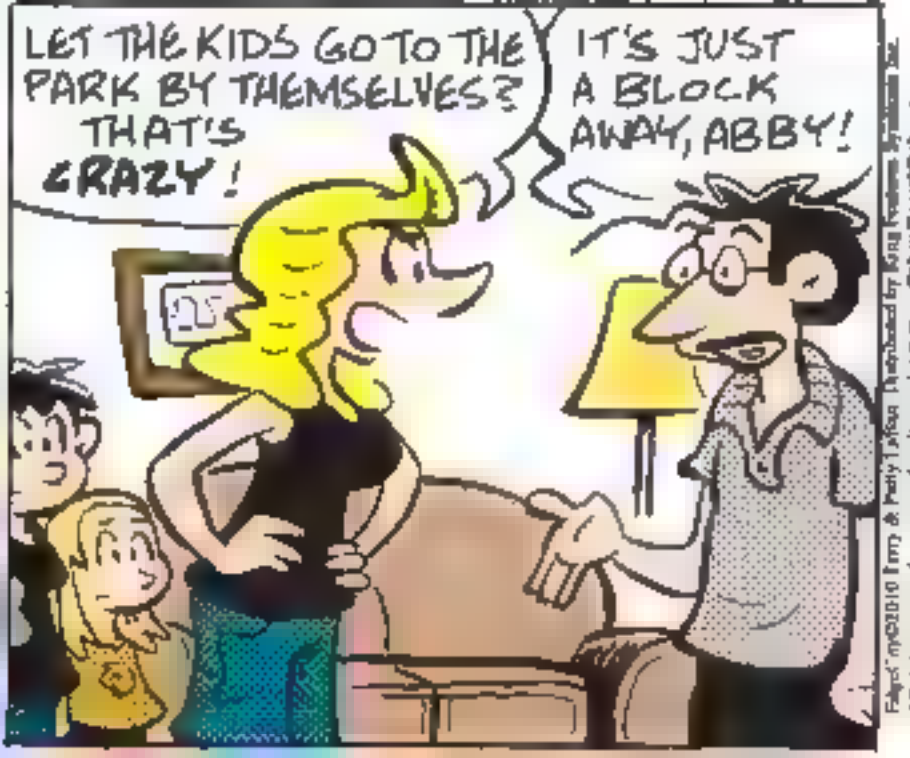

IT'S BEEN A FEW DAYS. HAVE THE MARKETERS FOUND YOU AGAIN YET?
NOPE. CANCELING MY WEB ACCOUNTS REALLY WORKED.
YOU DON'T LOOK HAPPY.
WELL, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME UNEXPECTED DRAWBACKS.
8-19
NOT ONLY CAN'T THE MARKETERS FIND ME -- NO ONE ELSE CAN, EITHER!

WHEN I CHANGED MY ACCOUNTS AND GOT OFF MY FACE, I STOPPED GETTING EMAIL FROM MARKETERS.
BUT I ALSO LOST MY ENTIRE SOCIAL NETWORK. I STARTED FEELING LONELY AND ISOLATED.
8-20
I NOTICE YOU'RE SPEAKING IN THE PAST TENSE.
I'M BACK ON MY FACE AGAIN.

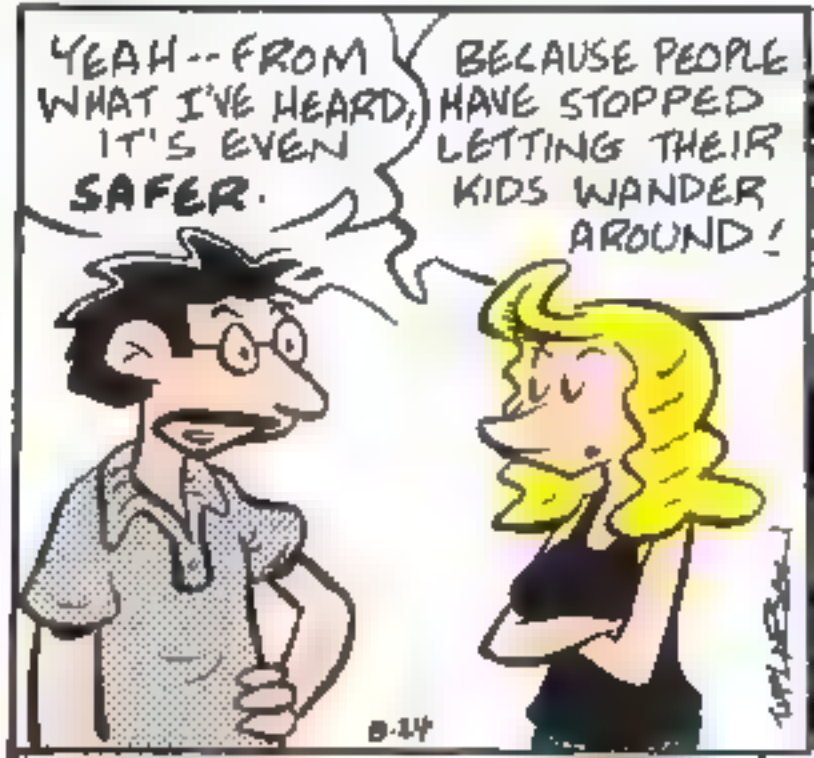
WELL, I OPENED A NEW MYFACE ACCOUNT-- AND I STARTED GETTING EMAIL FROM MARKETERS AGAIN.
NOT AS MUCH AS BEFORE, I HOPE.
NO-- JUST ENOUGH TO BE REASSURING
RE-ASSURING?
IF I DIDN'T EXIST, NO ONE WOULD BOTHER ME.

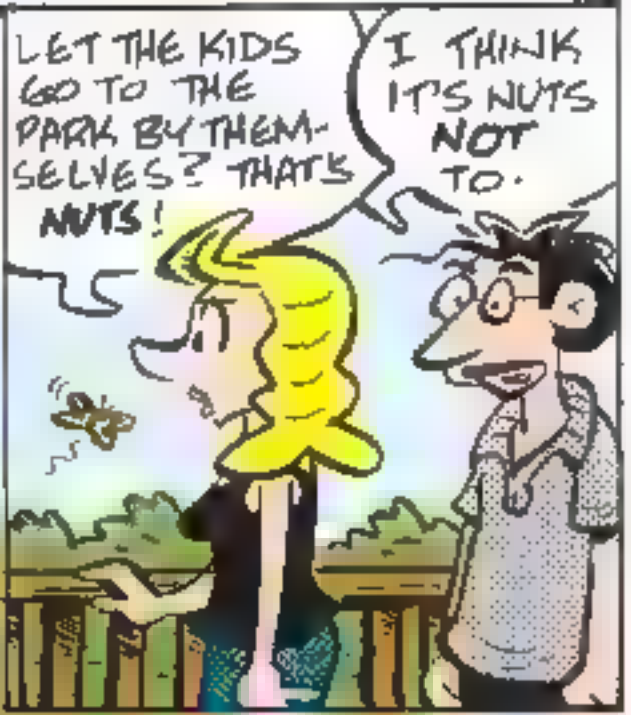

BOY, IT'S SOBERING TO READ ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE GULF.
I MEAN, TAKE THIS PLACE-- IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL... IT SEEMS LIKE IT'LL BE LIKE THIS FOREVER.
BUT ONE SCREW-UP COULD TURN THE WHOLE BEACH INTO A STINKING, POLLUTED MESS.
WE NEED A FUNNY PUNCHLINE.
THAT'S FOR SURE!
HOW 'BOUT THIS-- WHAT'D THE PELICAN SAY TO THE OIL EXECUTIVE?

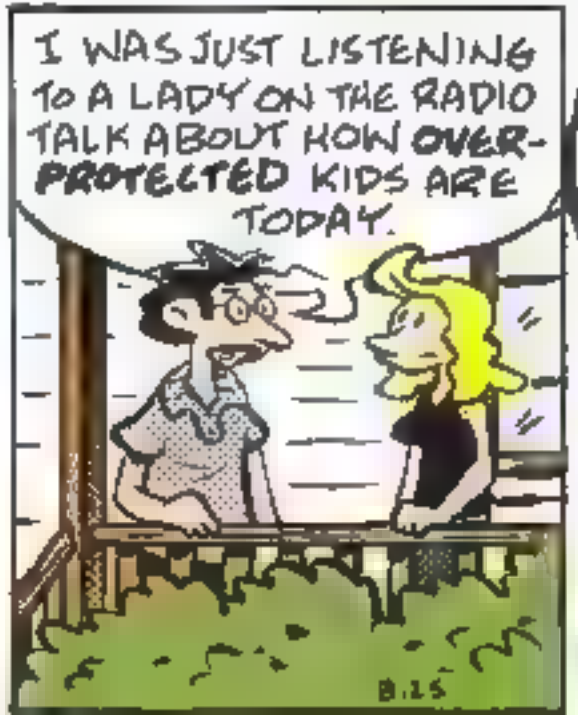
HEY, DAD -- COULD YOU TAKE US UP TO THE PARK?
I'M KIND OF BUSY RIGHT NOW.
WHY DON'T YOU GO YOURSELVES? I THINK YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH.
WELL, I DON'T!


LET THE KIDS GO TO THE PARK BY THEMSELVES? THAT'S CRAZY!
IT'S JUST A BLOCK AWAY, ABBY!

WHEN I WAS THEIR AGES, I WENT ALL OVER MY NEIGHBORHOOD BY MYSELF!
WELL, IT'S DIFFERENT NOW!

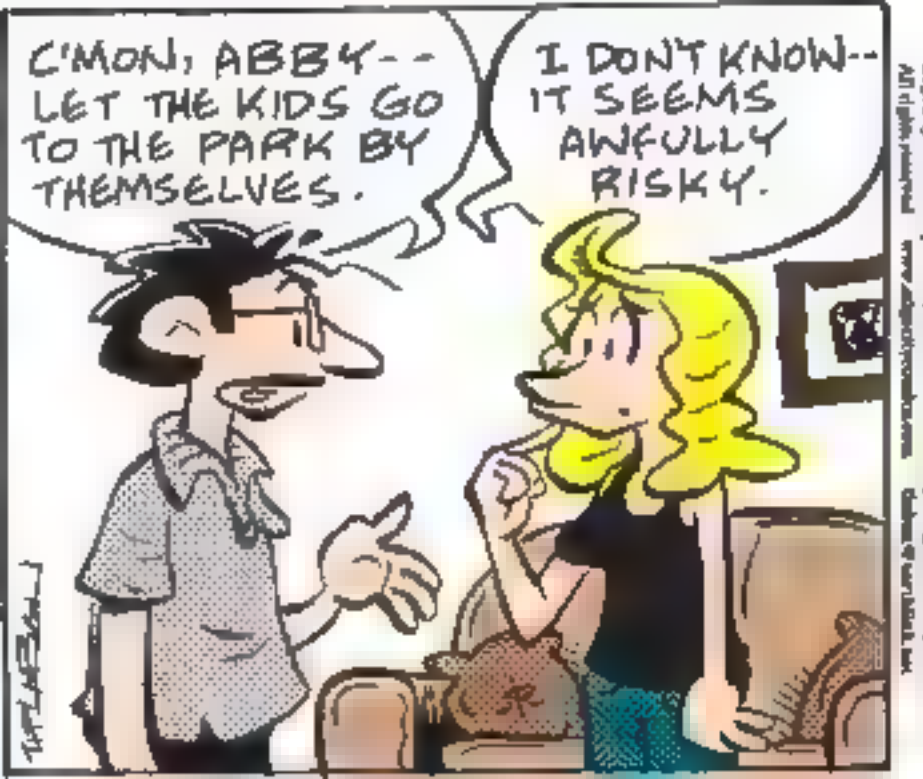

YEAH -- FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, IT'S EVEN SAFER.
BECAUSE PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED LETTING THEIR KIDS WANDER AROUND!


LET THE KIDS GO TO THE PARK BY THEMSELVES? THAT'S NUTS!
I THINK IT'S NUTS NOT TO.

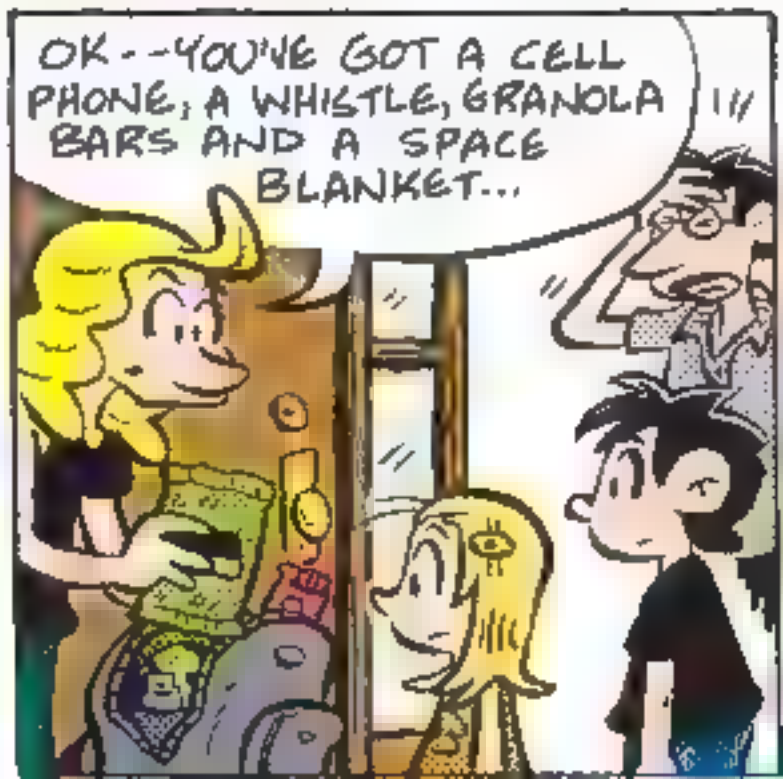

I WAS JUST LISTENING TO A LADY ON THE RADIO TALK ABOUT HOW OVER-PROTECTED KIDS ARE TODAY.

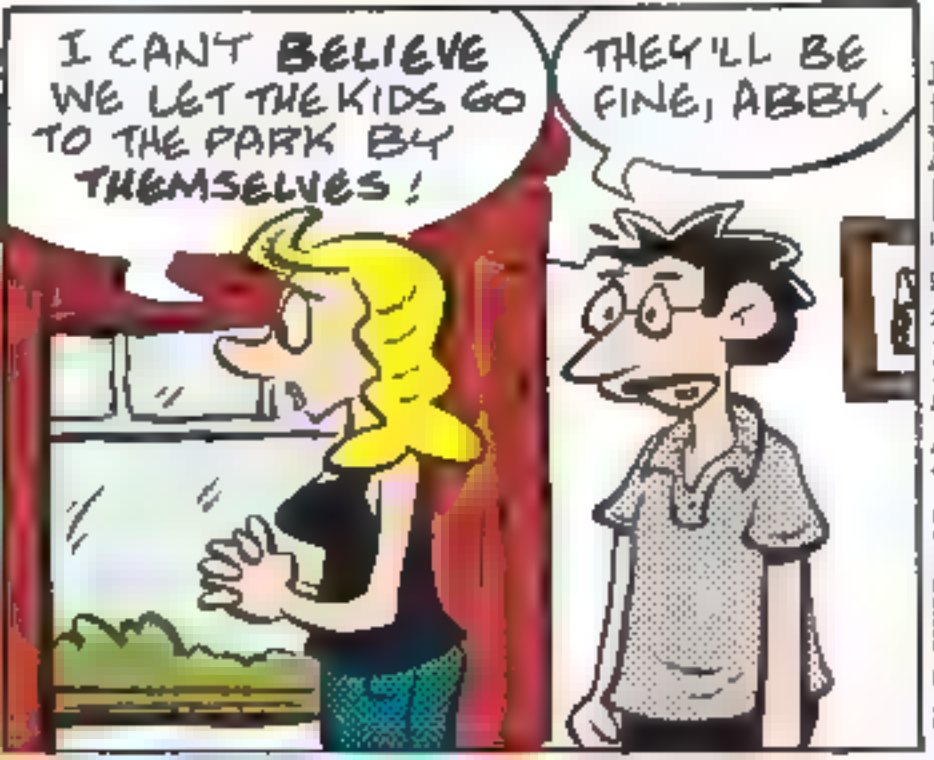
HOW WILL THEY LEARN SELF-CONFIDENCE IF WE NEVER LET THEM OUT OF OUR SIGHT?

BY GETTING INTO IVY LEAGUE SCHOOLS.
BY THEN IT'LL BE TOO LATE.


C'MON, ABBY-- LET THE KIDS GO TO THE PARK BY THEMSELVES.
I DON'T KNOW-- IT SEEMS AWFULLY RISKY.

YOU THINK THEY'LL BE BETTER OFF IF WE NEVER LET THEM ACT INDEPENDENTLY?
=SIGH!= WELL, MAYBE FOR A LITTLE BIT... IT IS JUST A BLOCK AWAY.
8.16


OK--YOU'VE GOT A CELL PHONE, A WHISTLE, GRANOLA BARS AND A SPACE BLANKET...



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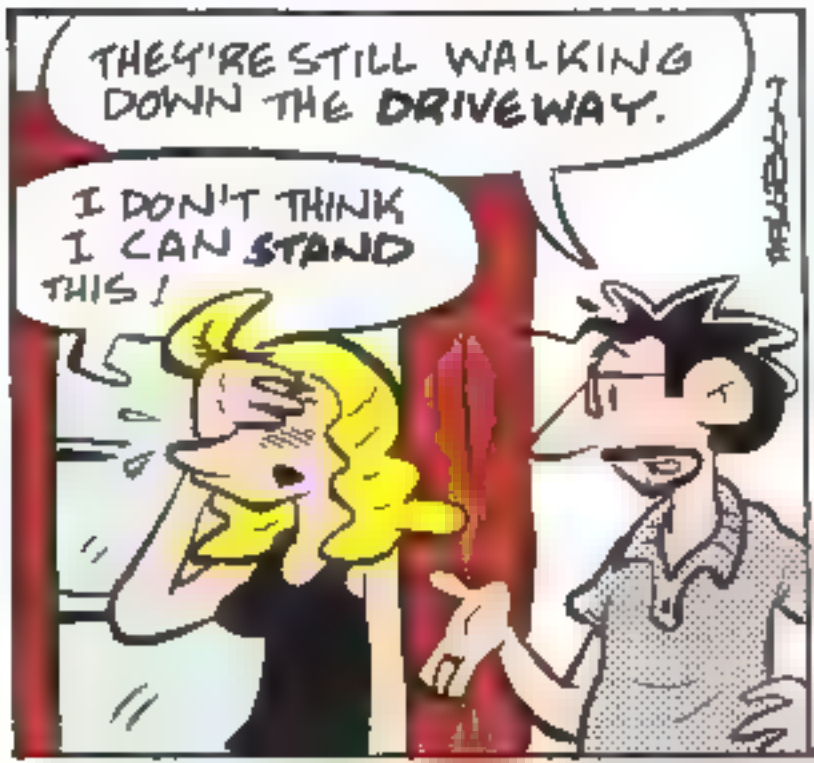
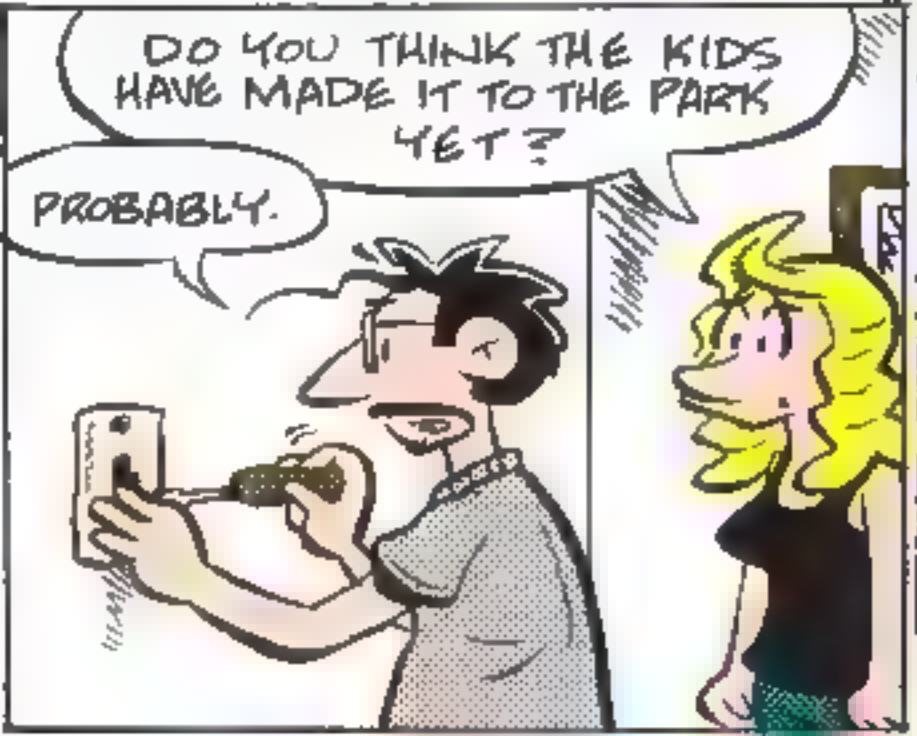
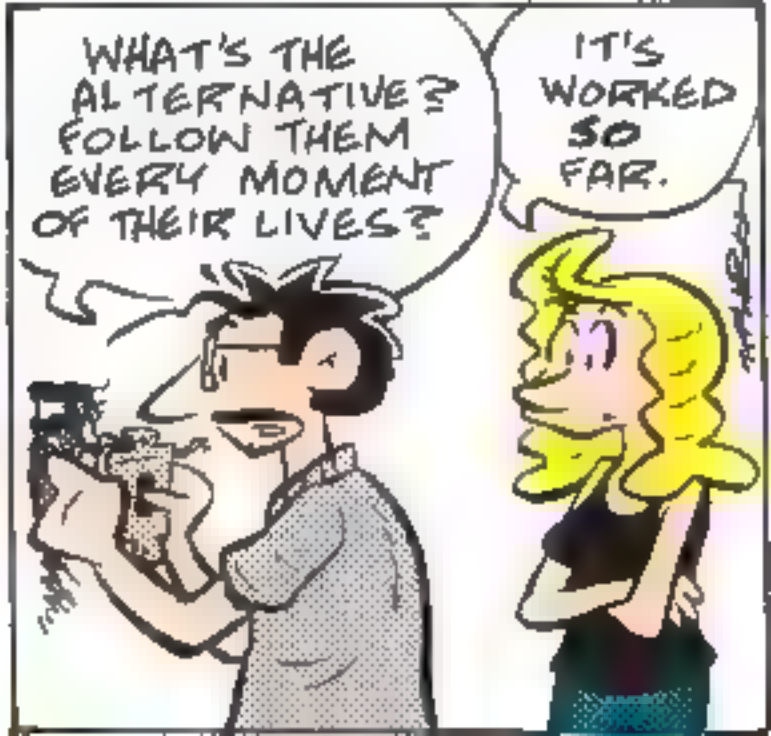
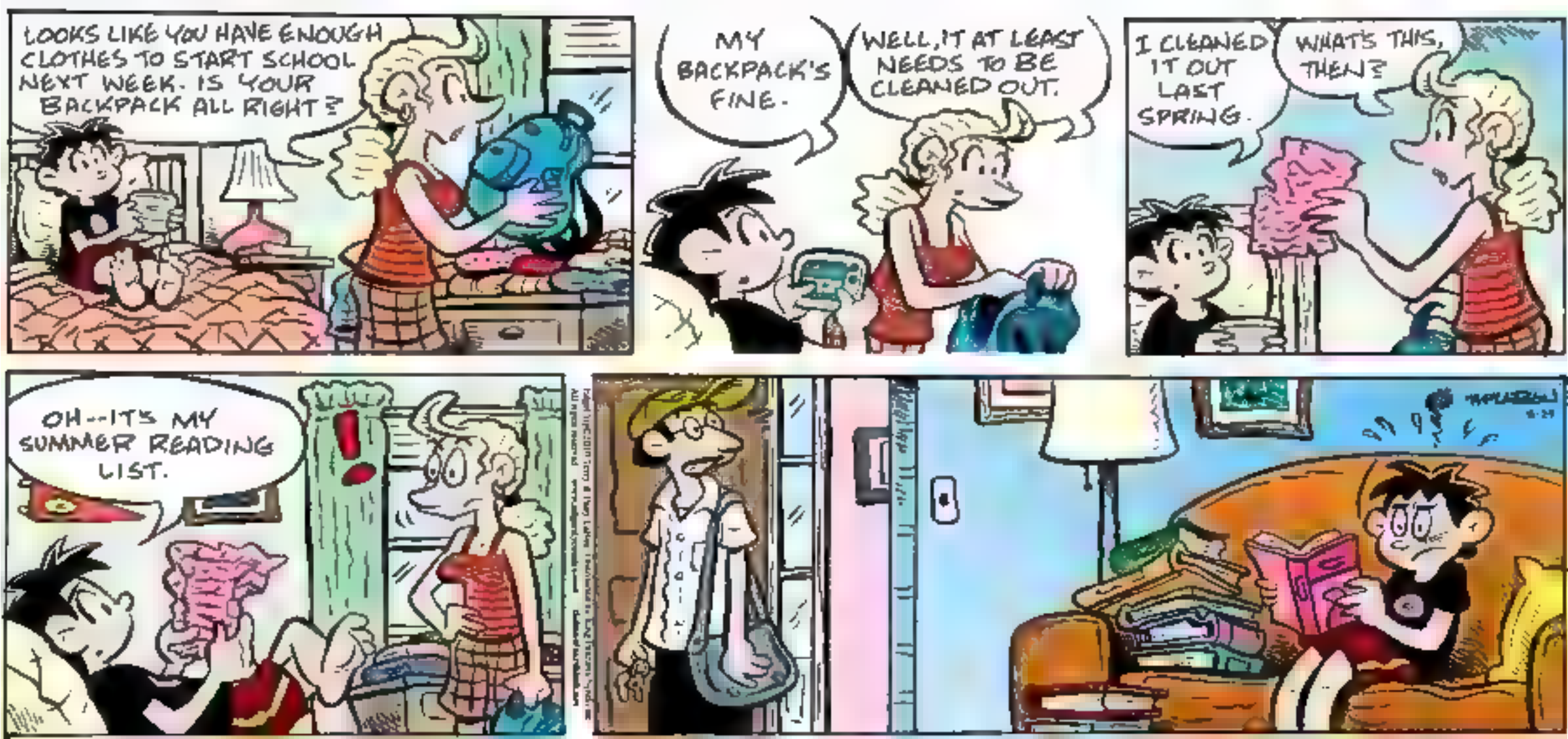
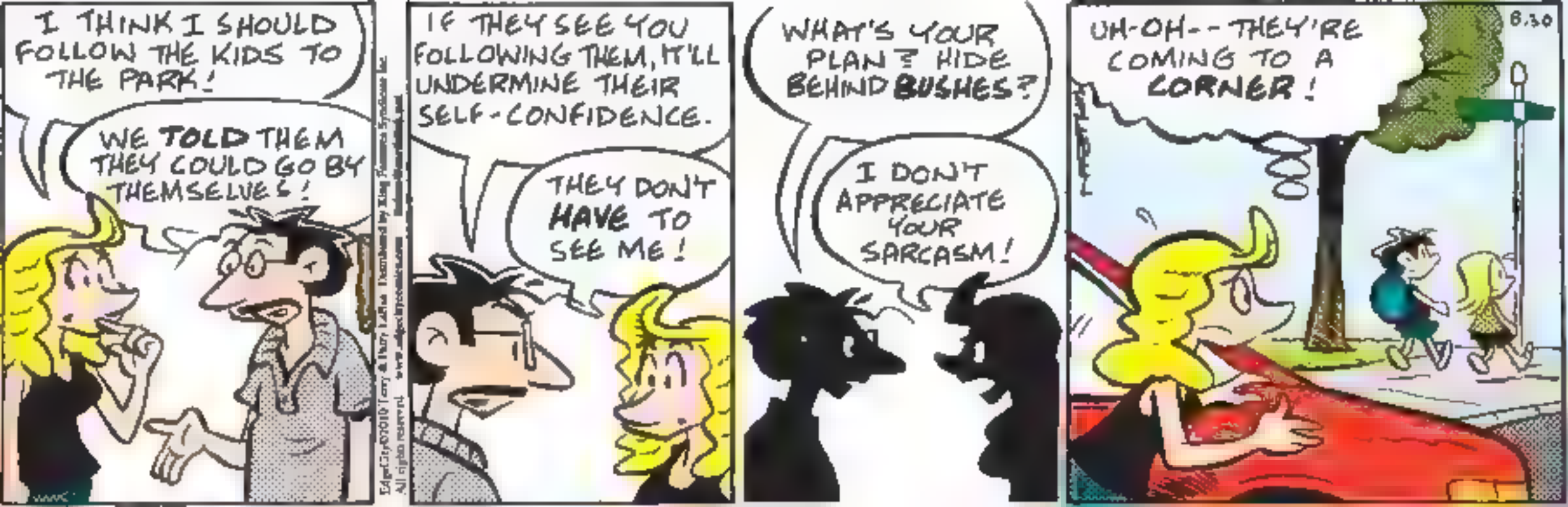


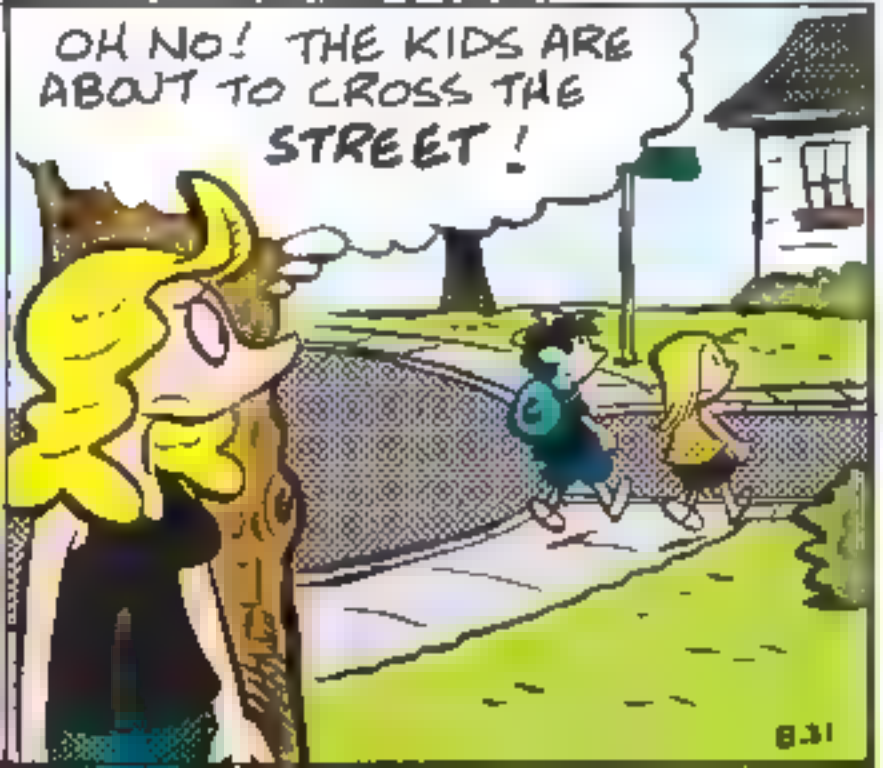

DO YOU THINK THE KIDS HAVE MADE IT TO THE PARK YET?
PROBABLY.

I HOPE WE DON'T REGRET LETTING THEM GO BY THEMSELVES. I KEEP THINKING OF ALL THE AWFUL THINGS THAT COULD HAPPEN.
8-18

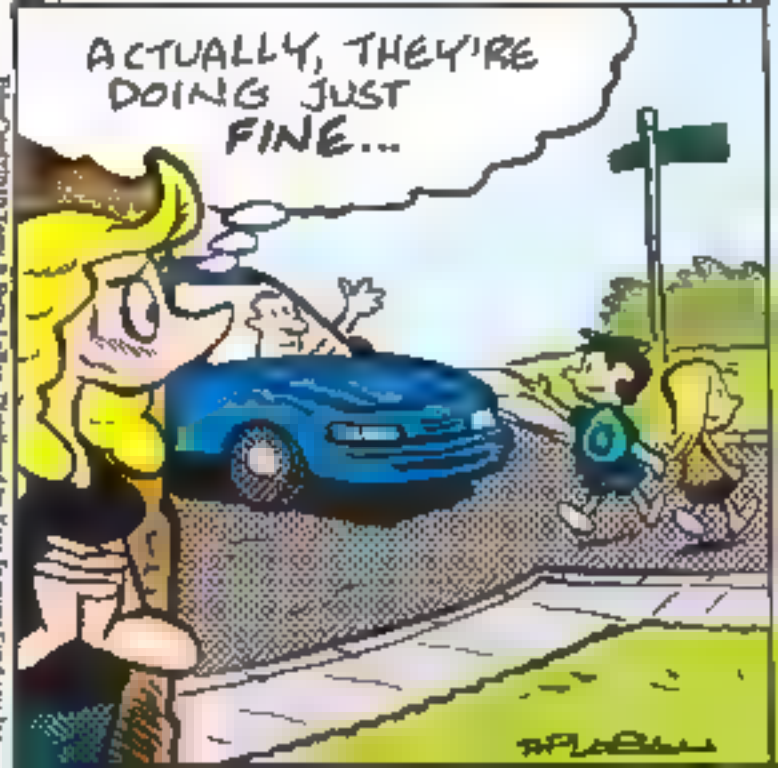

WHAT'S THE ALTERNATIVE? FOLLOW THEM EVERY MOMENT OF THEIR LIVES?
IT'S WORKED SO FAR.

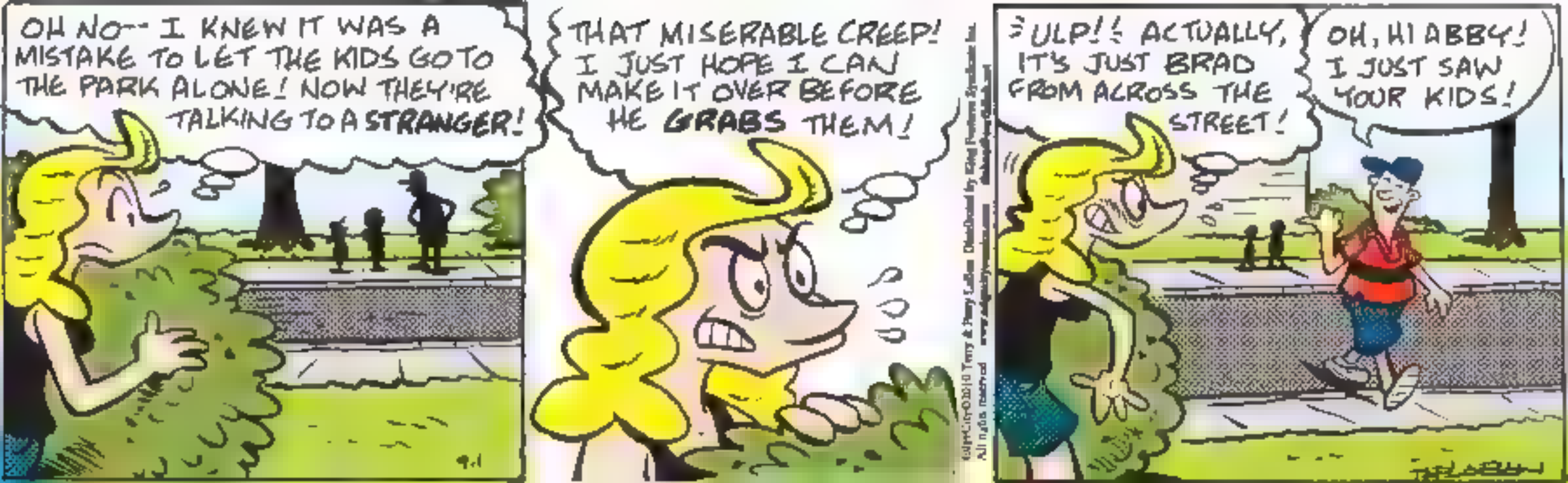

LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE ENOUGH CLOTHES TO START SCHOOL NEXT WEEK. IS YOUR BACKPACK ALL RIGHT?
MY BACKPACK'S FINE.
WELL, IT AT LEAST NEEDS TO BE CLEANED OUT.
I CLEANED IT OUT LAST SPRING.
WHAT'S THIS, THEN?
OH--IT'S MY SUMMER READING LIST.

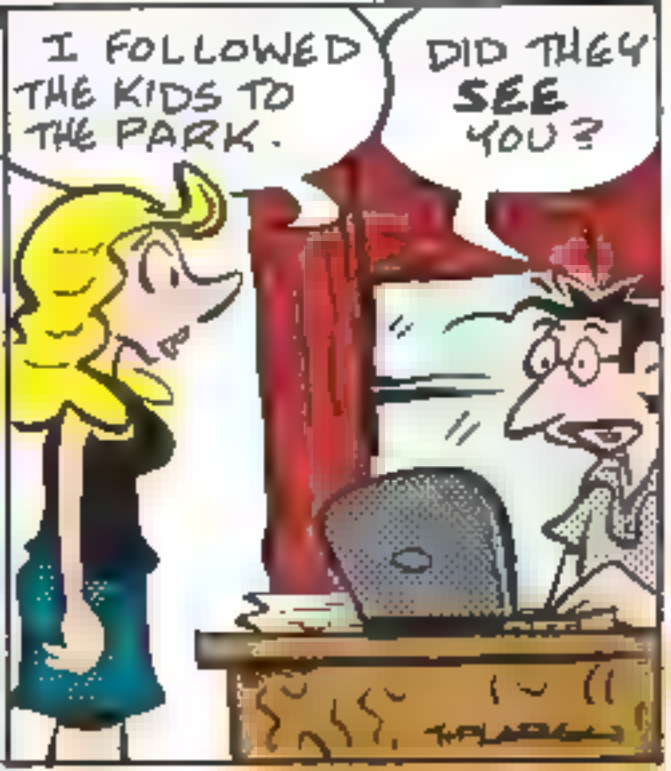

I THINK I SHOULD FOLLOW THE KIDS TO THE PARK!
WE TOLD THEM THEY COULD GO BY THEMSELVES!
IF THEY SEE YOU FOLLOWING THEM, IT'LL UNDERMINE THEIR SELF-CONFIDENCE.
THEY DON'T HAVE TO SEE ME!
WHAT'S YOUR PLAN? HIDE BEHIND BUSHES?
I DON'T APPRECIATE YOUR SARCASM!
UH-OH--THEY'RE COMING TO A CORNER!
8.30


OH NO! THE KIDS ARE ABOUT TO CROSS THE STREET!
8.31

SHOULD I RUN OVER AND HOLD THEIR HANDS? I KNEW IT WAS A BAD IDEA TO LET THEM GO TO THE PARK BY THEMSELVES!


ACTUALLY, THEY'RE DOING JUST FINE...


OH NO-- I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LET THE KIDS GO TO THE PARK ALONE! NOW THEY'RE TALKING TO A STRANGER!
THAT MISERABLE CREEP! I JUST HOPE I CAN MAKE IT OVER BEFORE HE GRABS THEM!
ULP!! ACTUALLY, IT'S JUST BRAD FROM ACROSS THE STREET!
OH, HI ABBY! I JUST SAW YOUR KIDS!



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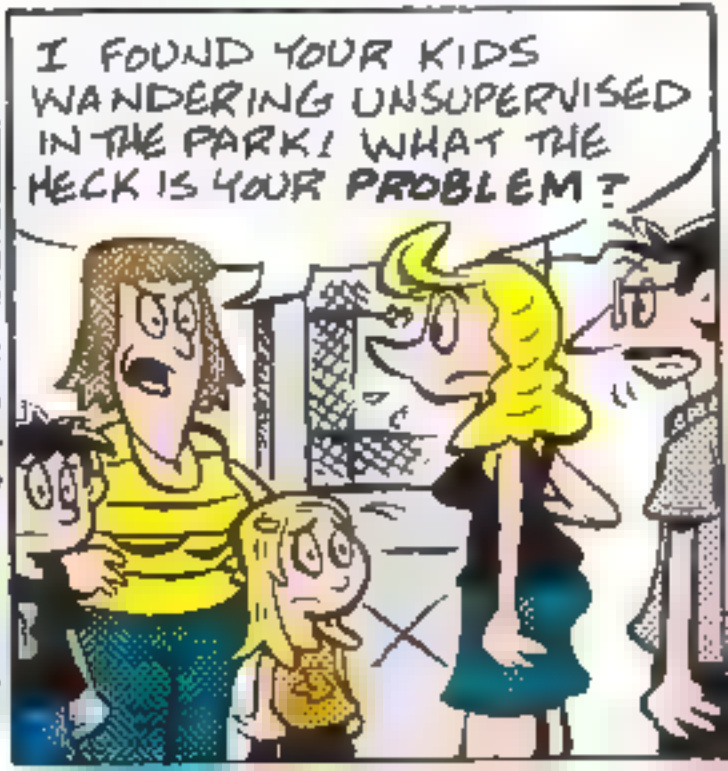
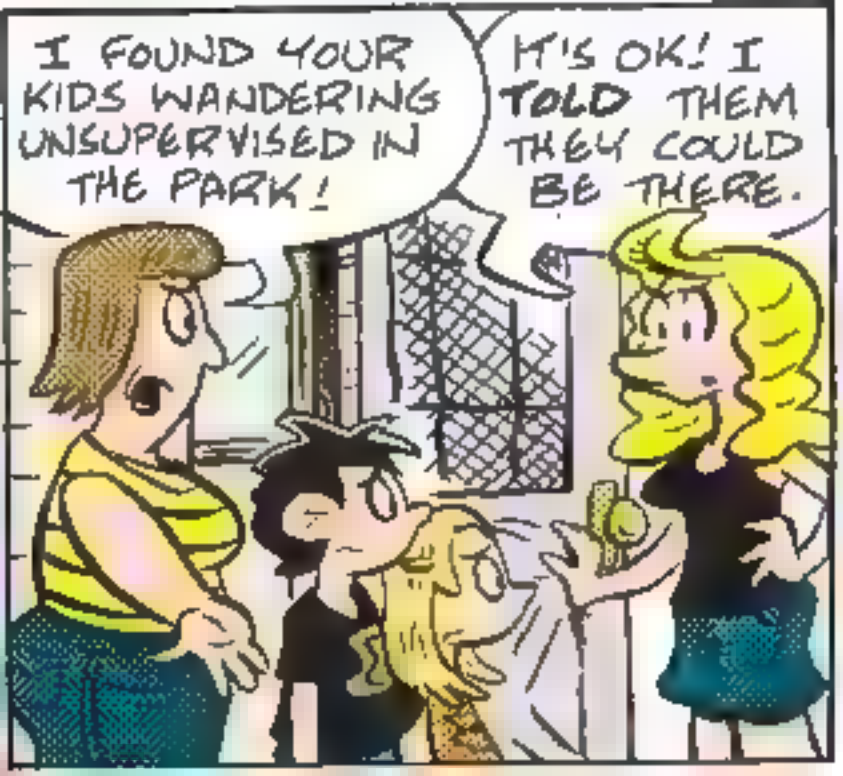
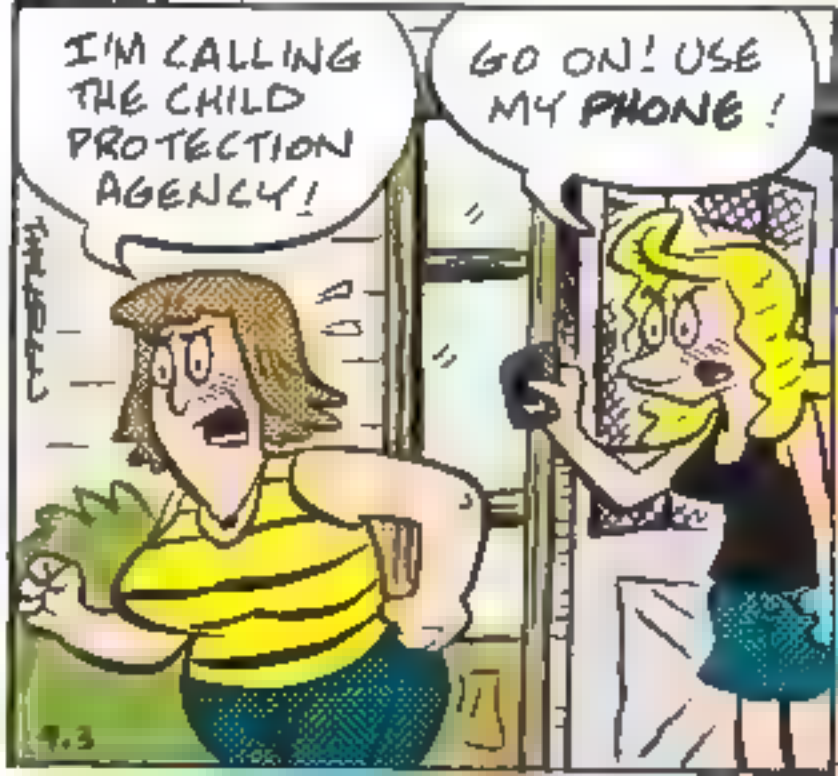
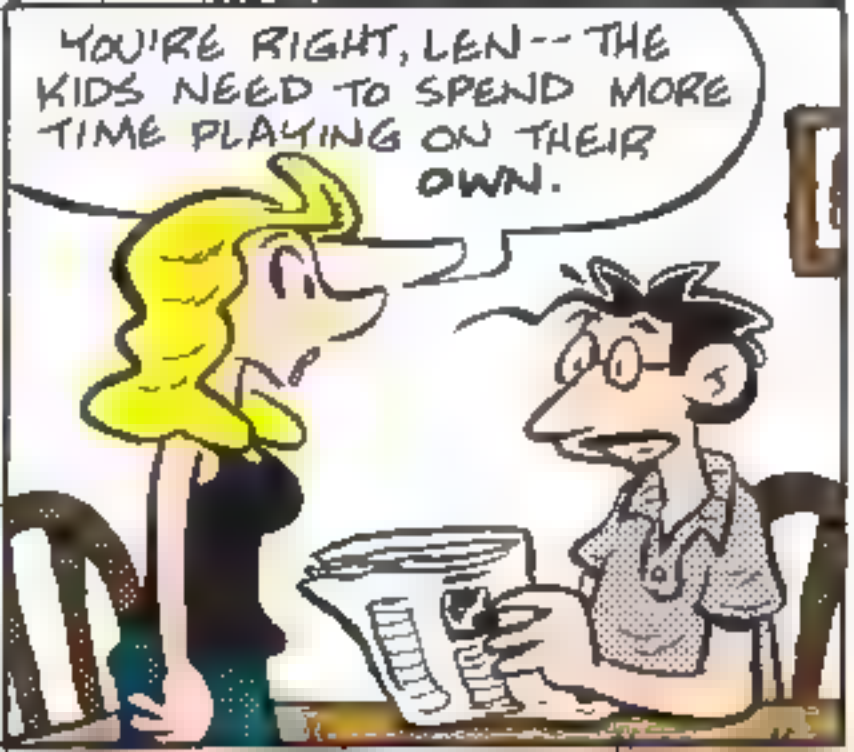



I FOUND YOUR KIDS WANDERING UNSUPERVISED IN THE PARK!
IT'S OK! I TOLD THEM THEY COULD BE THERE.

WHAT KIND OF MOTHER ARE YOU?
THE KIND WHO THINKS KIDS SHOULDN'T BE AFRAID TO PLAY ON THEIR OWN!


I'M CALLING THE CHILD PROTECTION AGENCY!
GO ON! USE MY PHONE!



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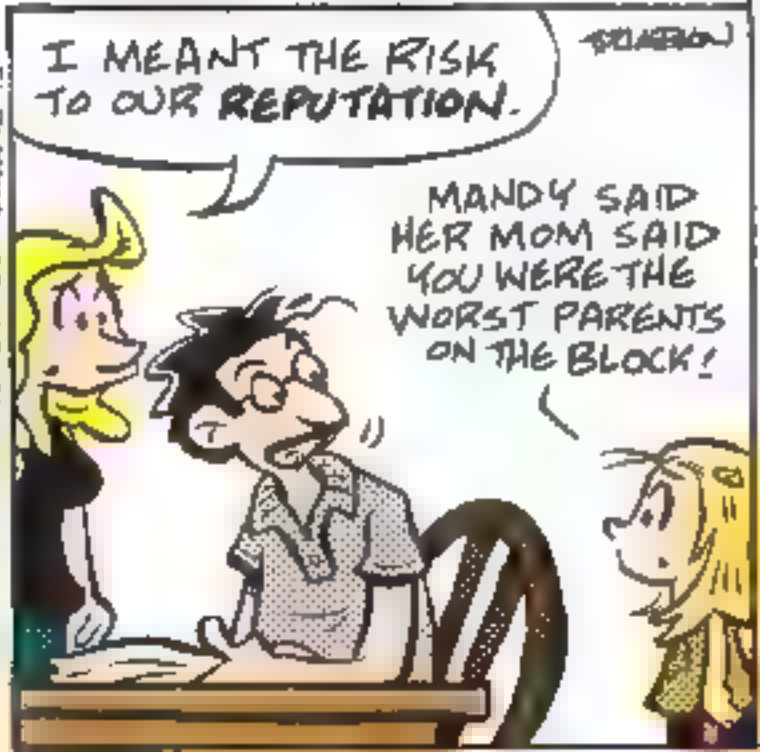
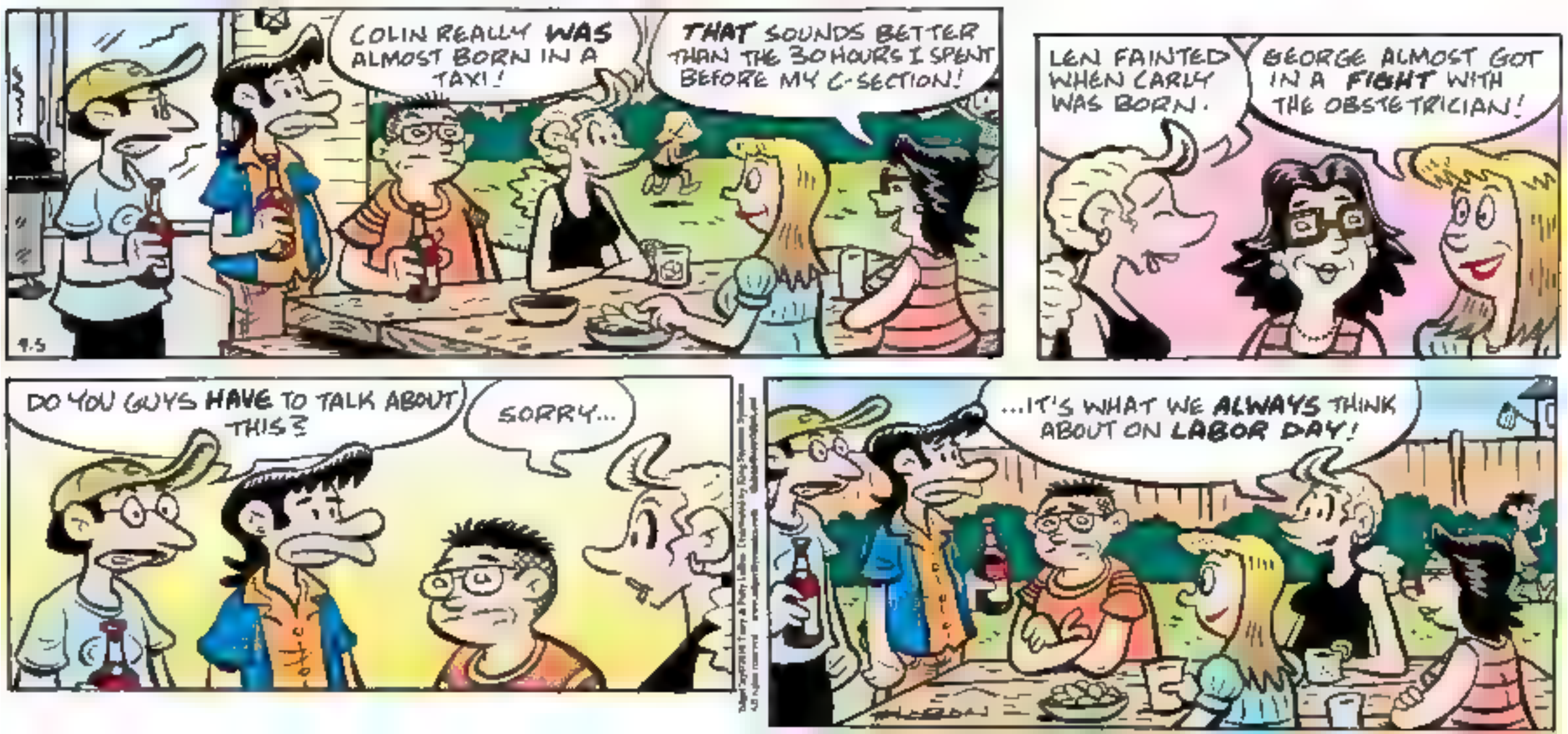


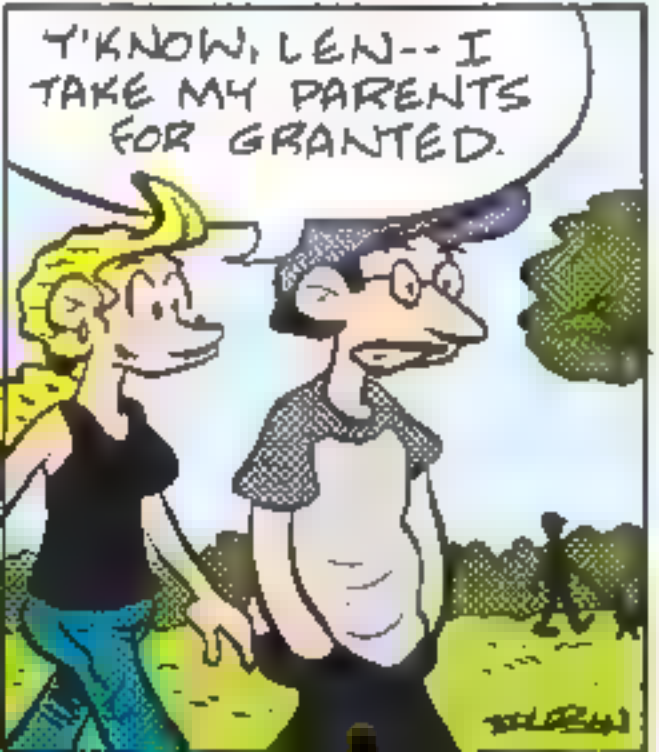

COLIN REALLY WAS ALMOST BORN IN A TAXI!
THAT SOUNDS BETTER THAN THE 30 HOURS I SPENT BEFORE MY C-SECTION!
LEN FAINTED WHEN CARLY WAS BORN.
GEORGE ALMOST GOT IN A FIGHT WITH THE OBSTETRICIAN!
DO YOU GUYS HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THIS?
SORRY...
...IT'S WHAT WE ALWAYS THINK ABOUT ON LABOR DAY!

YOU KNOW WHAT THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF LOSING MY MOTHER IS, DR. ARDIN?

REALIZING SHE'D NEEDED ME, BUT I WAS NEVER WILLING TO SPEND THE TIME.
LET'S START WITH THAT NEXT WEEK, EDITH.

SEE YOU TUESDAY!

HI... MOM?



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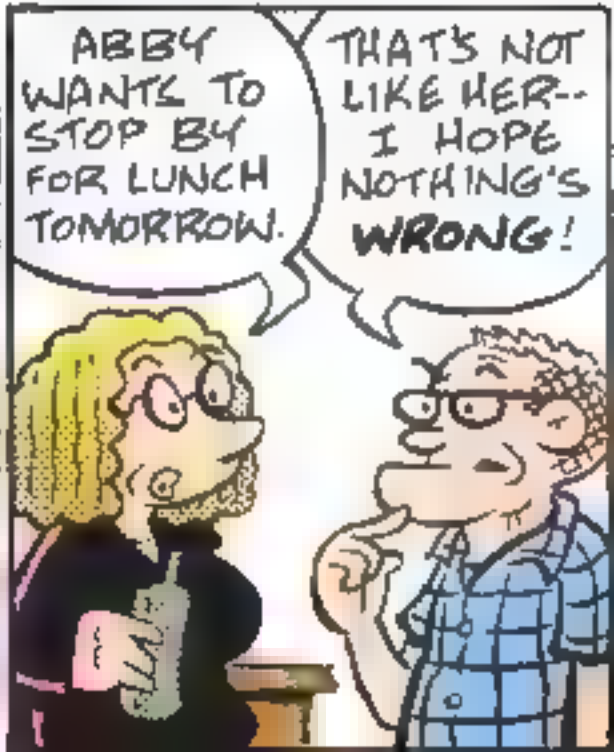
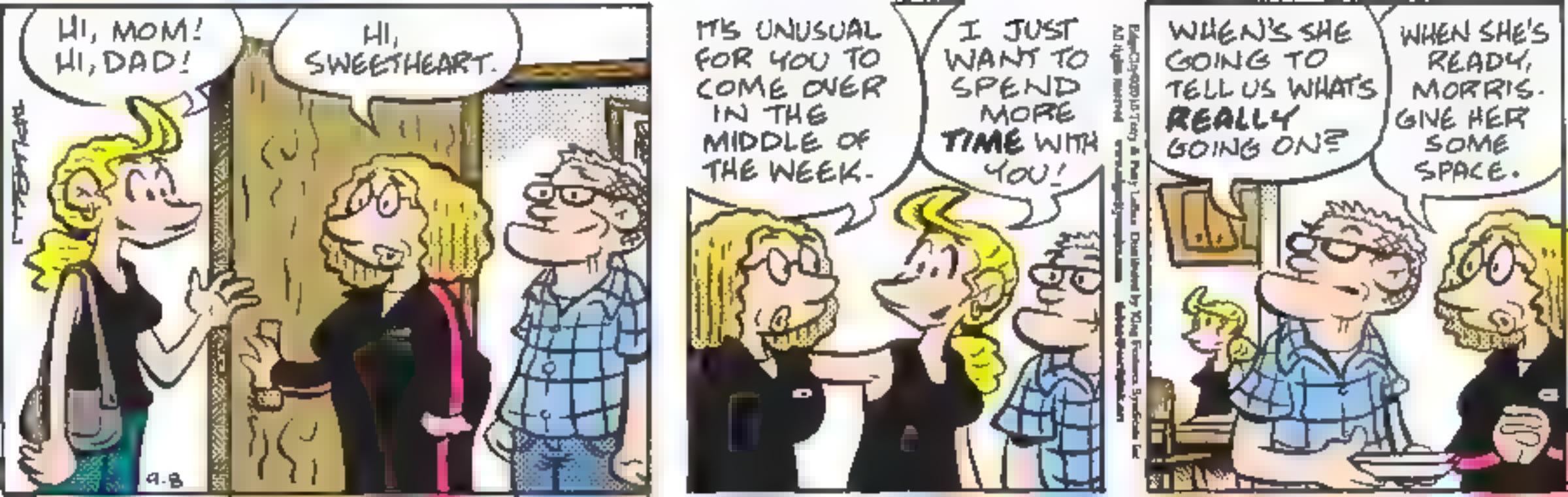
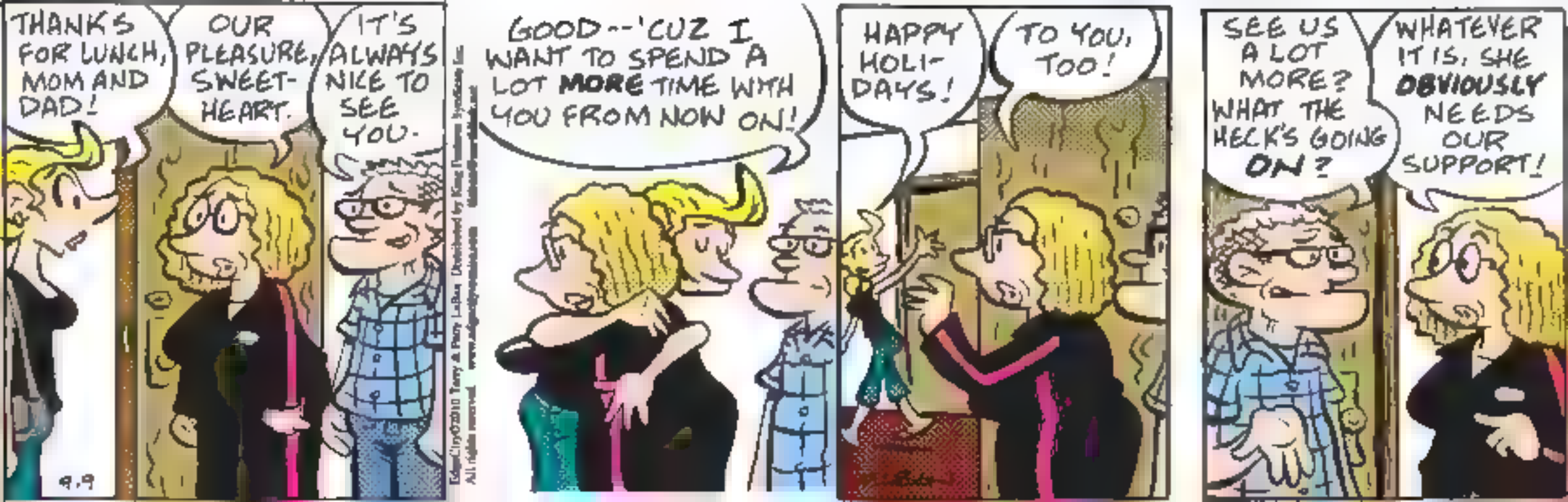
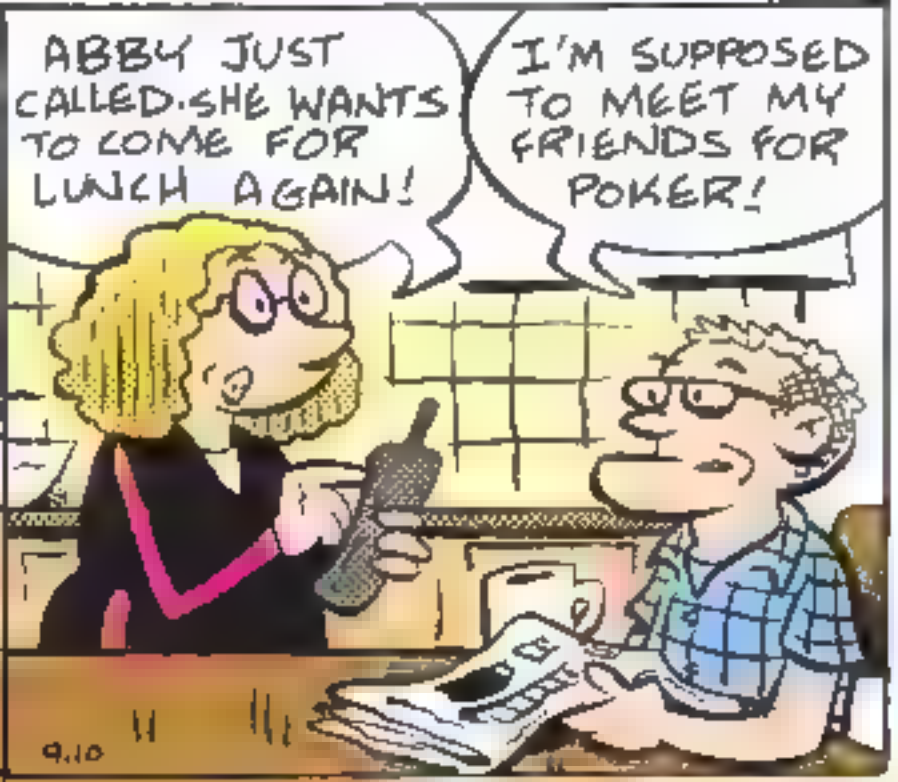
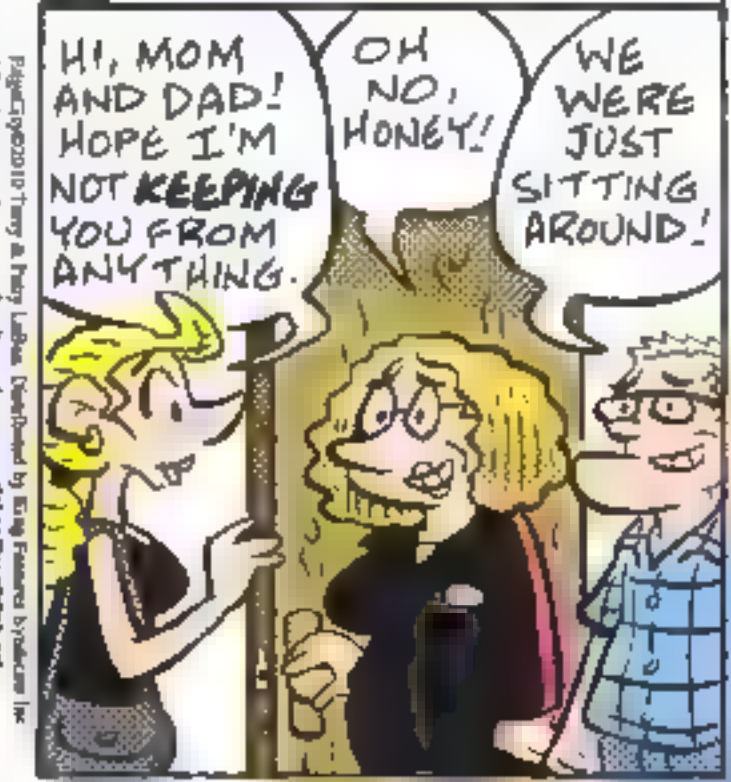


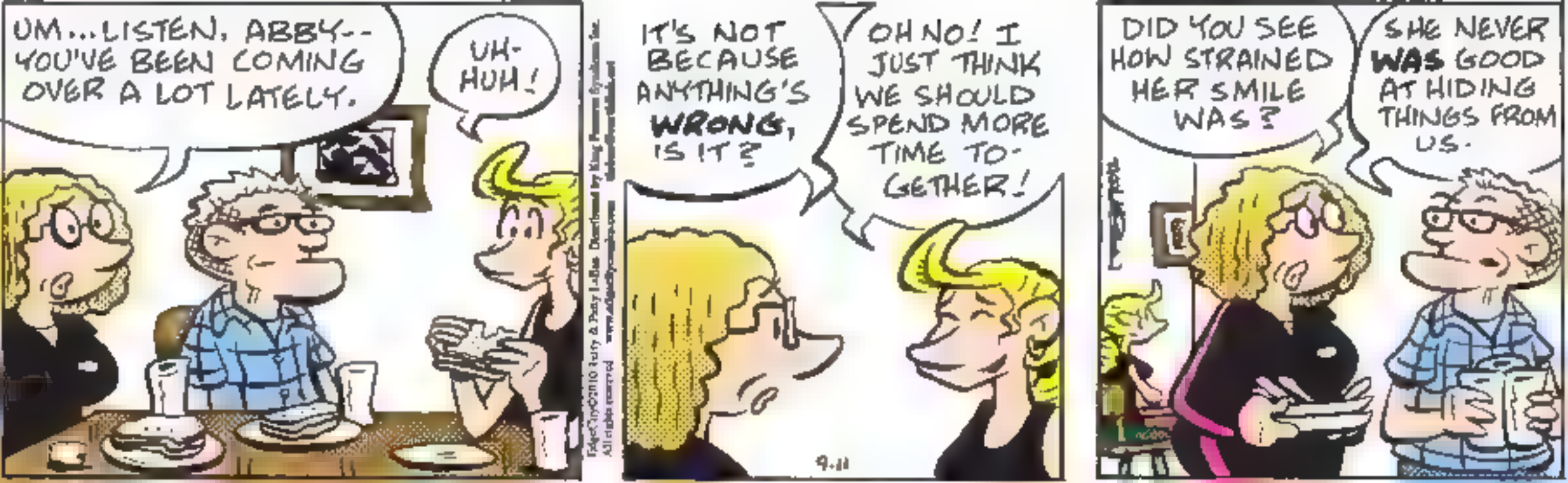

HI, MOM! HI, DAD!
HI, SWEETHEART.
IT'S UNUSUAL FOR YOU TO COME OVER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK.
I JUST WANT TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH YOU!
WHEN'S SHE GOING TO TELL US WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?
WHEN SHE'S READY, MORRIS. GIVE HER SOME SPACE.

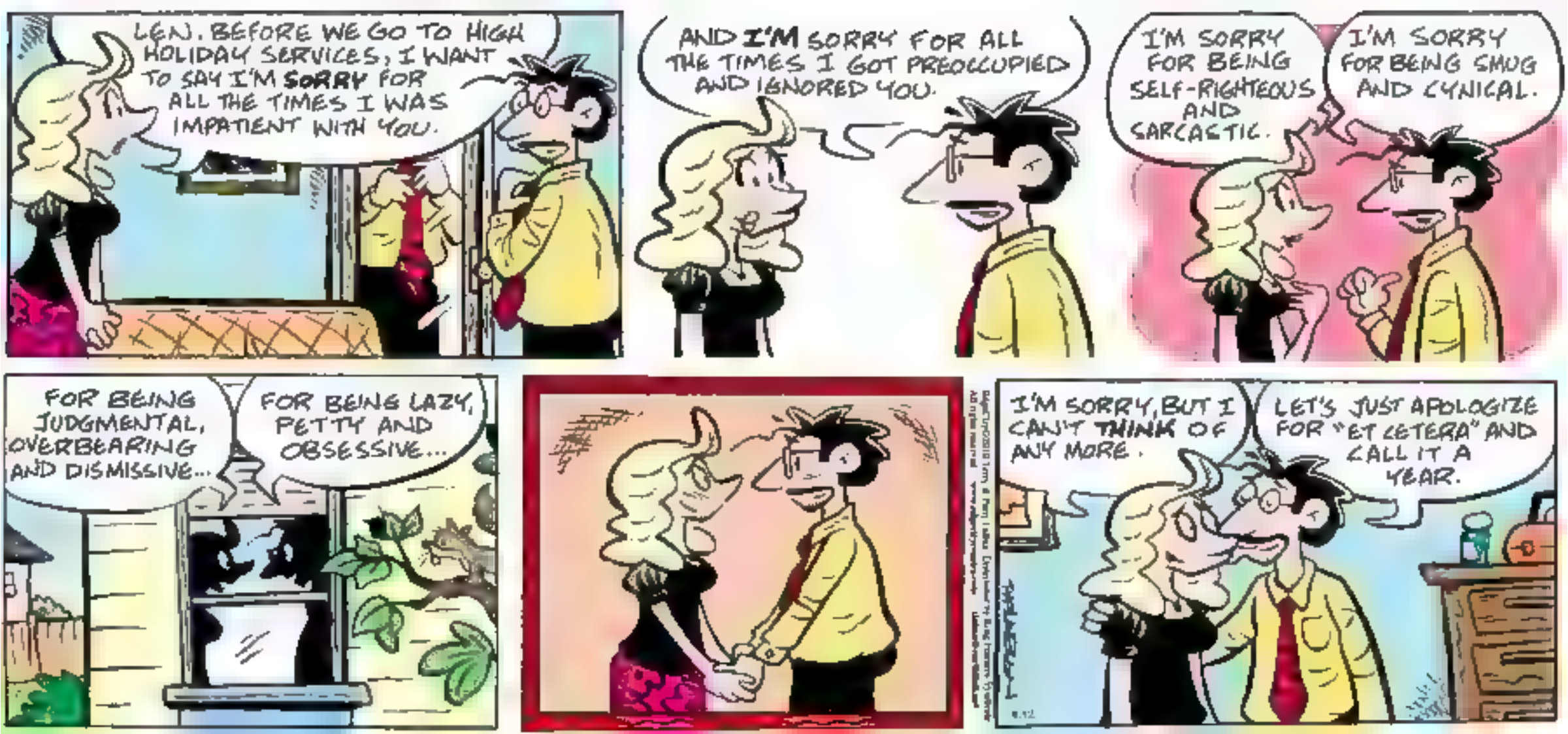

THANKS FOR LUNCH, MOM AND DAD!
OUR PLEASURE, SWEET-HEART.
IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO SEE YOU.
9.9
GOOD--'CUZ I WANT TO SPEND A LOT MORE TIME WITH YOU FROM NOW ON!
HAPPY HOLI-DAYS!
TO YOU, TOO!
SEE US A LOT MORE? WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON?
WHATEVER IT IS, SHE OBVIOUSLY NEEDS OUR SUPPORT!

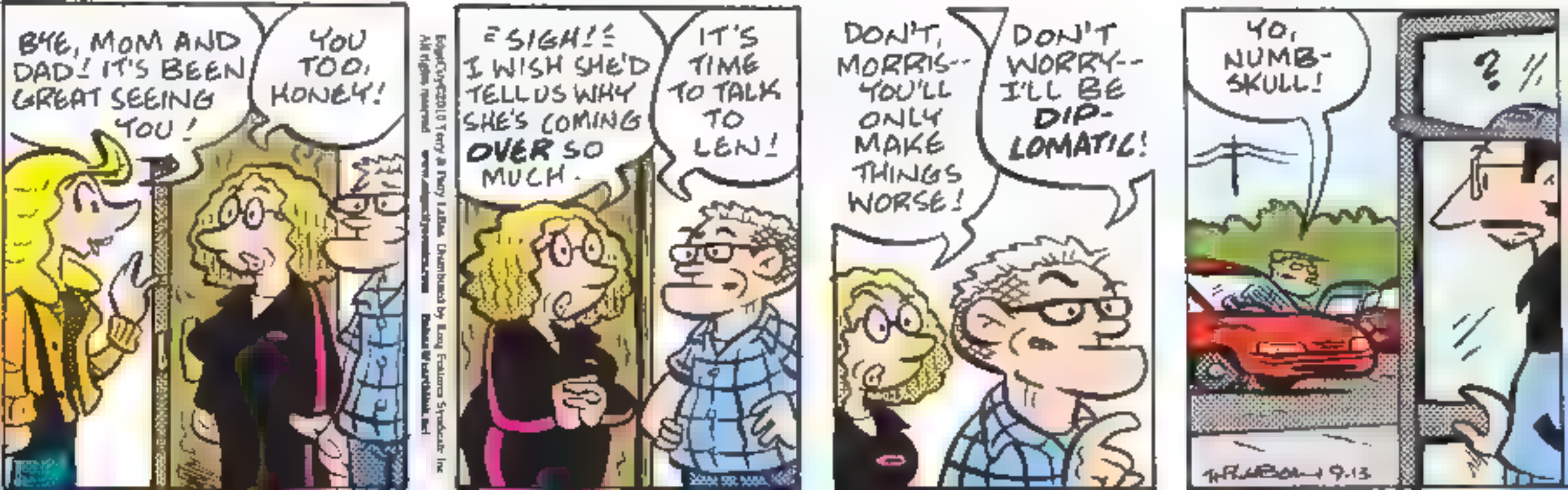

ABBY JUST CALLED. SHE WANTS TO COME FOR LUNCH AGAIN!
I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET MY FRIENDS FOR POKER!
9.10

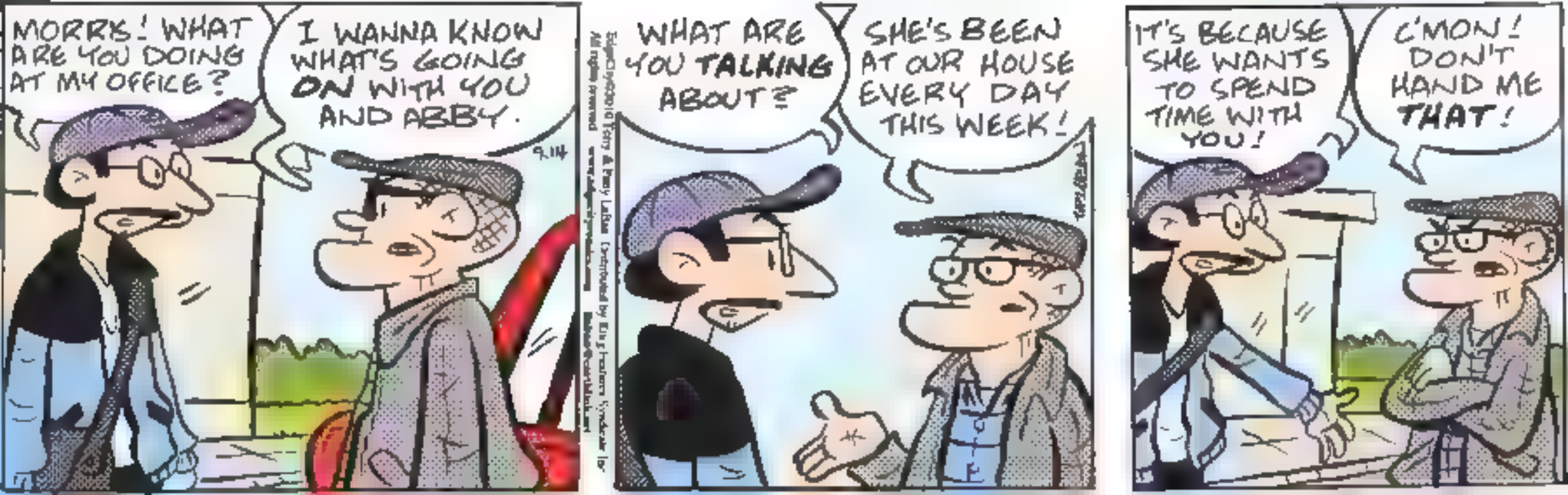
AND I'M SUPPOSED TO PLAY TENNIS. BUT SHE WOULDN'T WANT TO SEE US SO MUCH IF SHE DIDN'T REALLY NEED TO.
SIGH! I'LL CALL LOU...

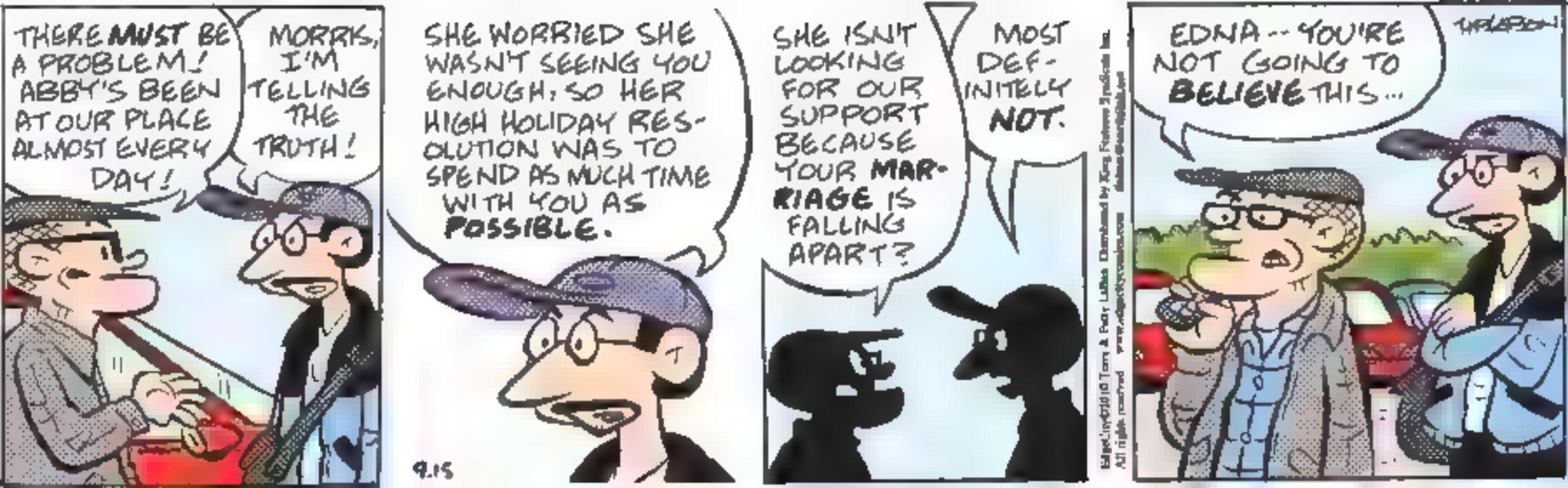

HI, MOM AND DAD! HOPE I'M NOT KEEPING YOU FROM ANYTHING.
OH NO, HONEY!
WE WERE JUST SITTING AROUND!

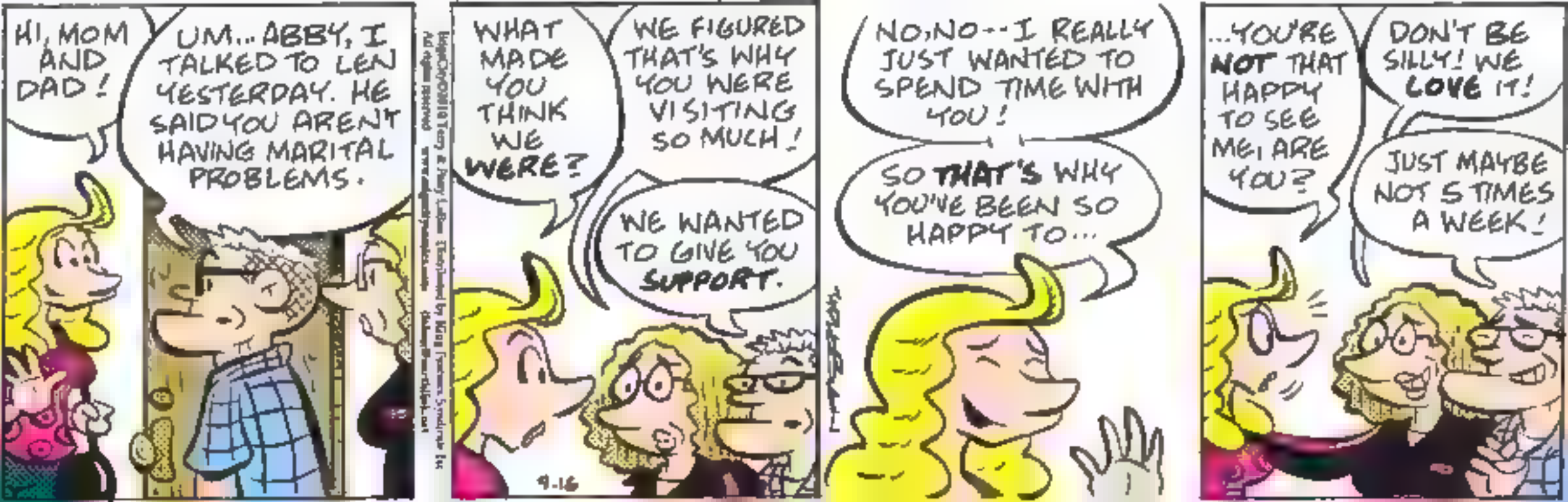

UM...LISTEN, ABBY--YOU'VE BEEN COMING OVER A LOT LATELY.
UH-HUH!
IT'S NOT BECAUSE ANYTHING'S WRONG, IS IT?
OH NO! I JUST THINK WE SHOULD SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER!
9-11
DID YOU SEE HOW STRAINED HER SMILE WAS?
SHE NEVER WAS GOOD AT HIDING THINGS FROM US.

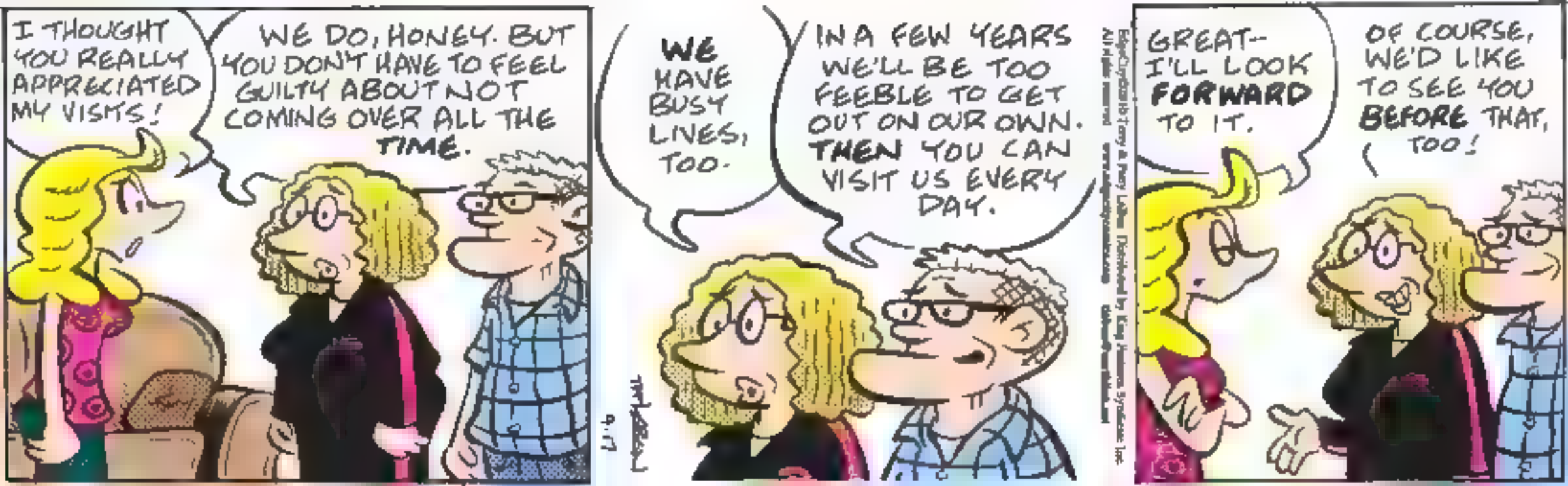

LEN. BEFORE WE GO TO HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES, I WANT TO SAY I'M SORRY FOR ALL THE TIMES I WAS IMPATIENT WITH YOU.
AND I'M SORRY FOR ALL THE TIMES I GOT PREOCCUPIED AND IGNORED YOU.
I'M SORRY FOR BEING SELF-RIGHTEOUS AND SARCASTIC.
I'M SORRY FOR BEING SMUG AND CYNICAL.
FOR BEING JUDGMENTAL, OVERBEARING AND DISMISSIVE...
FOR BEING LAZY, PETTY AND OBSESSIVE...
I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T THINK OF ANY MORE.
LET'S JUST APOLOGIZE FOR "ET CETERA" AND CALL IT A YEAR.

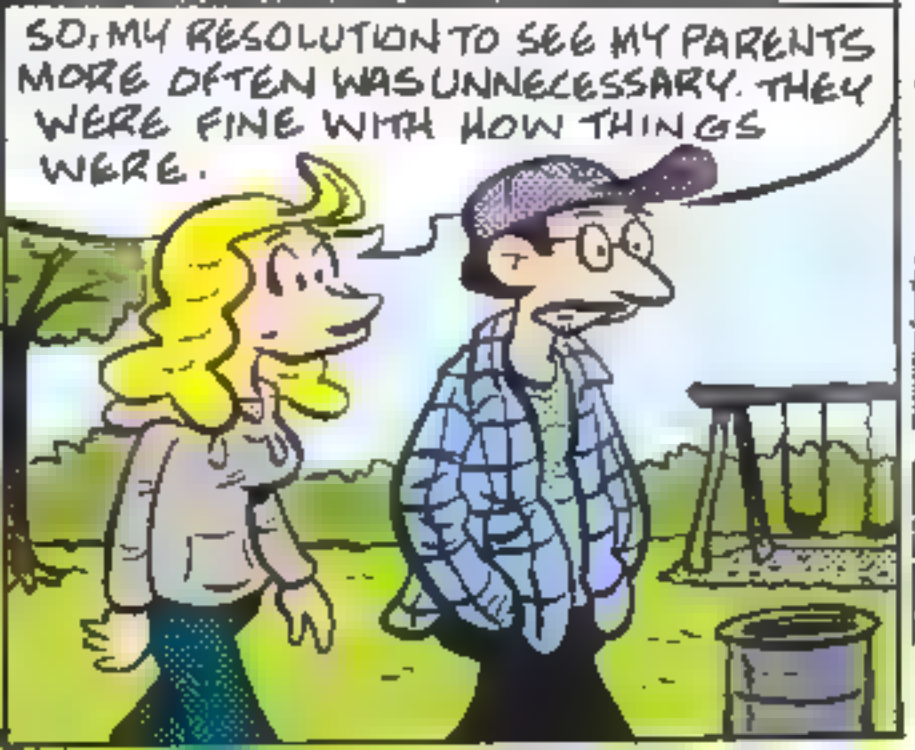

BYE, MOM AND DAD! IT'S BEEN GREAT SEEING YOU!
YOU TOO, HONEY!
SIGH! I WISH SHE'D TELL US WHY SHE'S COMING OVER SO MUCH.
IT'S TIME TO TALK TO LEN!
DON'T, MORRIS-- YOU'LL ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE!
DON'T WORRY-- I'LL BE DIPLOMATIC!
YO, NUMB-SKULL!
?


MORRIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT MY OFFICE?
I WANNA KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU AND ABBY.
9.14
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SHE'S BEEN AT OUR HOUSE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK!
IT'S BECAUSE SHE WANTS TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU!
C'MON! DON'T HAND ME THAT!

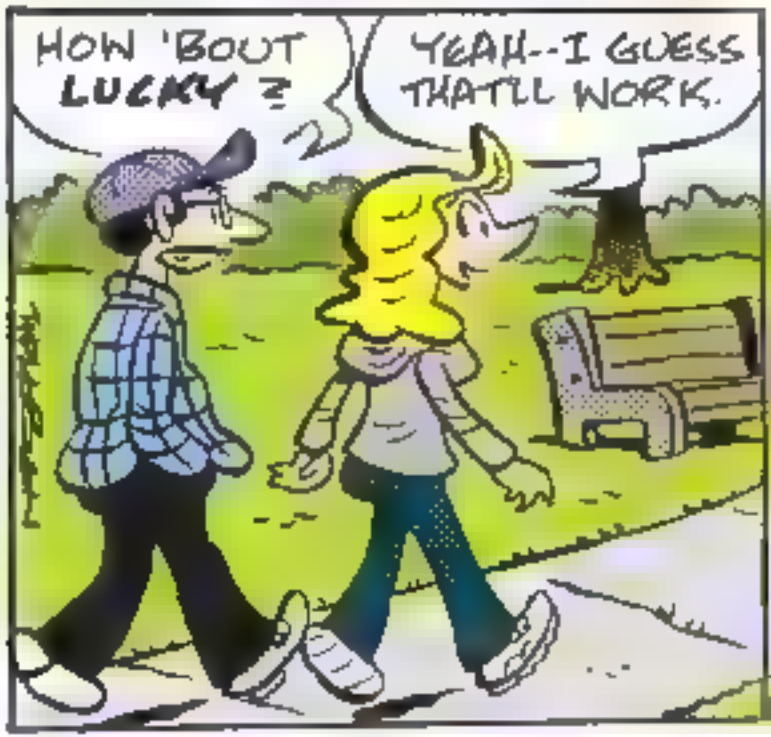

THERE MUST BE A PROBLEM! ABBY'S BEEN AT OUR PLACE ALMOST EVERY DAY!
MORRIS, I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!
SHE WORRIED SHE WASN'T SEEING YOU ENOUGH, SO HER HIGH HOLIDAY RESOLUTION WAS TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME WITH YOU AS POSSIBLE.
9.15
SHE ISN'T LOOKING FOR OUR SUPPORT BECAUSE YOUR MARRIAGE IS FALLING APART?
MOST DEFINITELY NOT.
EDNA -- YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS...

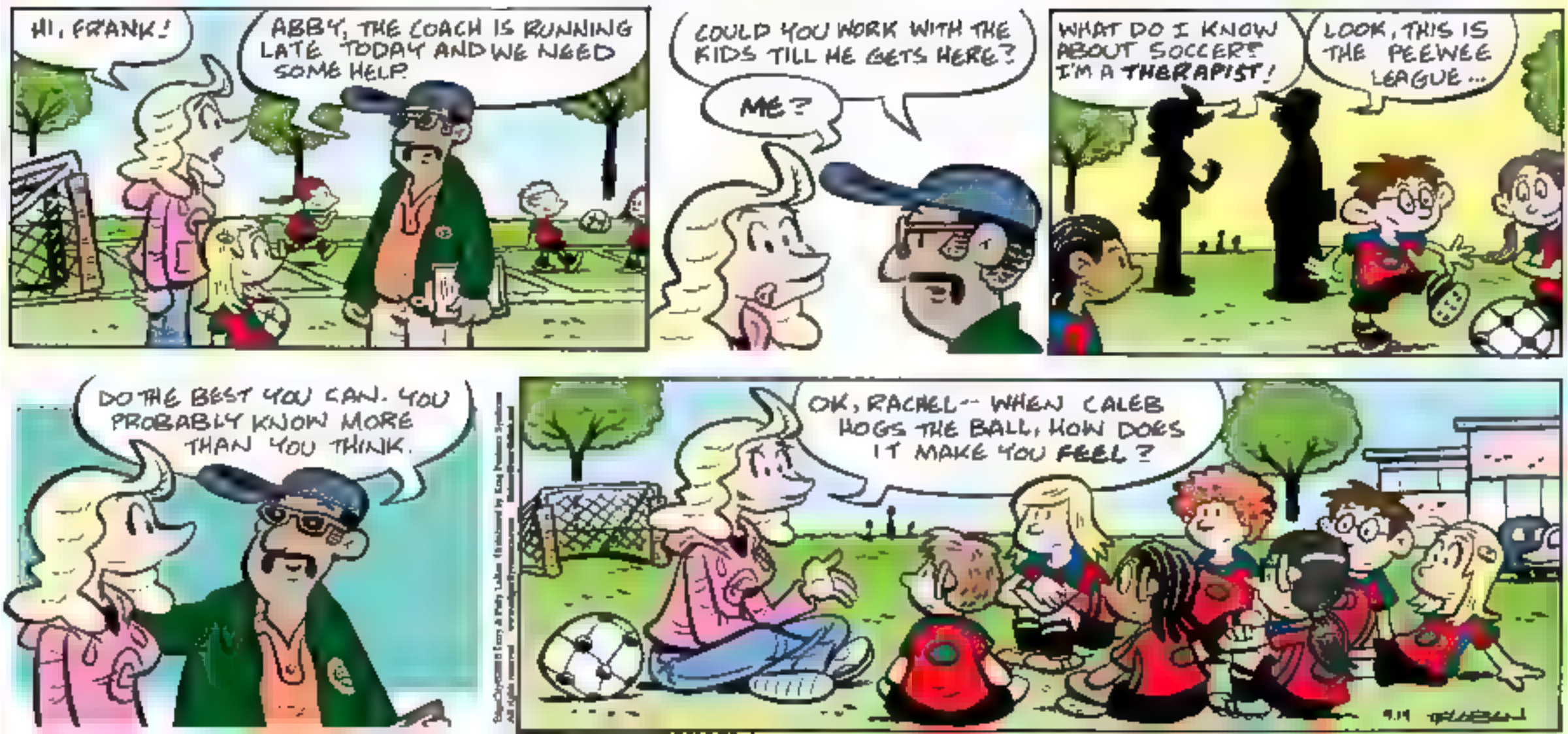

HI, MOM AND DAD!
UM... ABBY, I TALKED TO LEN YESTERDAY. HE SAID YOU AREN'T HAVING MARITAL PROBLEMS.
WHAT MADE YOU THINK WE WERE?
WE FIGURED THAT'S WHY YOU WERE VISITING SO MUCH!
WE WANTED TO GIVE YOU SUPPORT.
9-16
NO, NO -- I REALLY JUST WANTED TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN SO HAPPY TO...
...YOU'RE NOT THAT HAPPY TO SEE ME, ARE YOU?
DON'T BE SILLY! WE LOVE IT!
JUST MAYBE NOT 5 TIMES A WEEK!


I THOUGHT YOU REALLY APPRECIATED MY VISITS!
WE DO, HONEY. BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL GUILTY ABOUT NOT COMING OVER ALL THE TIME.
WE HAVE BUSY LIVES, TOO.
IN A FEW YEARS WE'LL BE TOO FEEBLE TO GET OUT ON OUR OWN. THEN YOU CAN VISIT US EVERY DAY.
GREAT-- I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT.
OF COURSE, WE'D LIKE TO SEE YOU BEFORE THAT, TOO!


SO, MY RESOLUTION TO SEE MY PARENTS MORE OFTEN WAS UNNECESSARY. THEY WERE FINE WITH HOW THINGS WERE.

IT'S GREAT THAT MY PARENTS ARE TOO BUSY TO **NEED** ME. STILL, I'M NOT SURE HOW IT ALL MAKES ME FEEL.
9.18


HOW 'BOUT **LUCKY**?
YEAH--I GUESS THAT'LL WORK.


HI, FRANK!
ABBY, THE COACH IS RUNNING LATE TODAY AND WE NEED SOME HELP.
COULD YOU WORK WITH THE KIDS TILL HE GETS HERE?
ME?
WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT SOCCER? I'M A THERAPIST!
LOOK, THIS IS THE PEEWEE LEAGUE...
DO THE BEST YOU CAN. YOU PROBABLY KNOW MORE THAN YOU THINK.
OK, RACHEL-- WHEN CALEB HOGS THE BALL, HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL?

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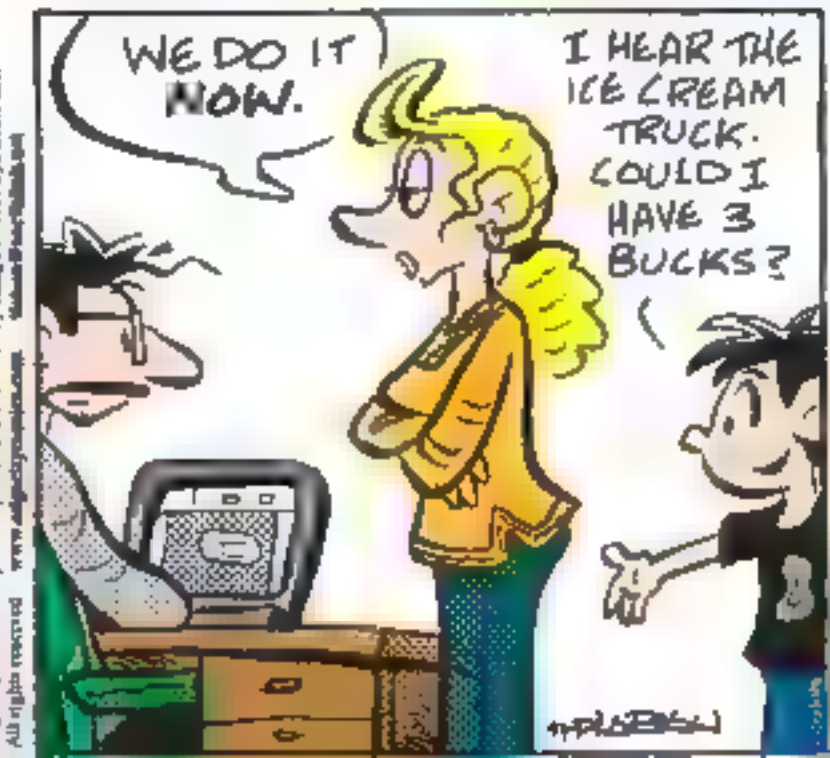
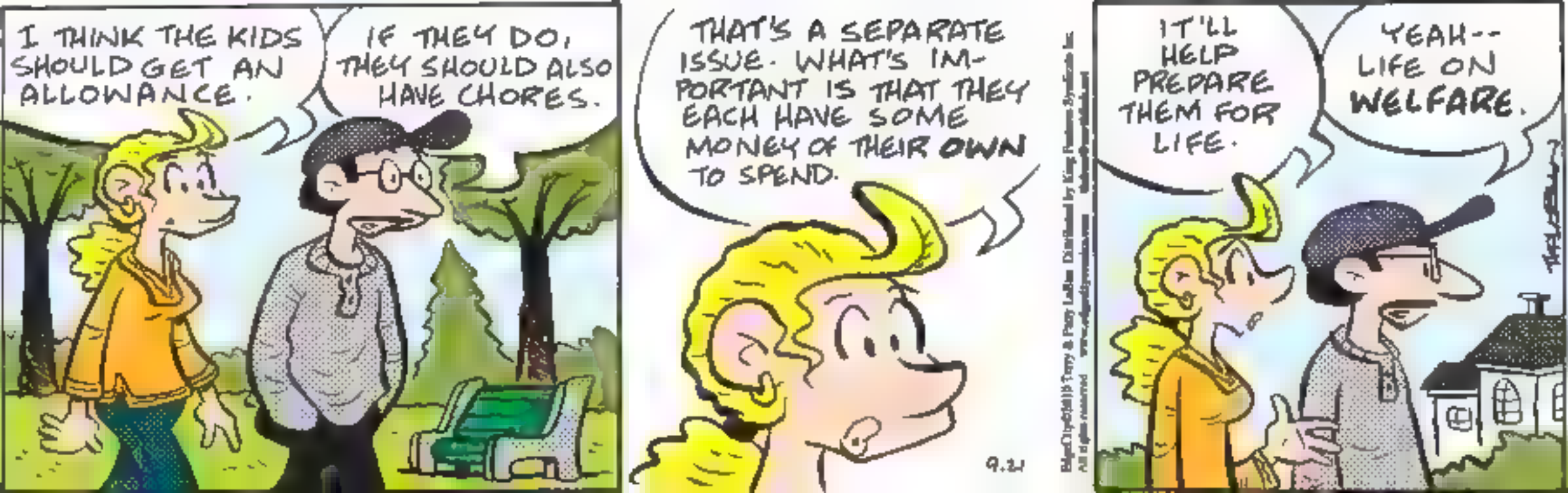
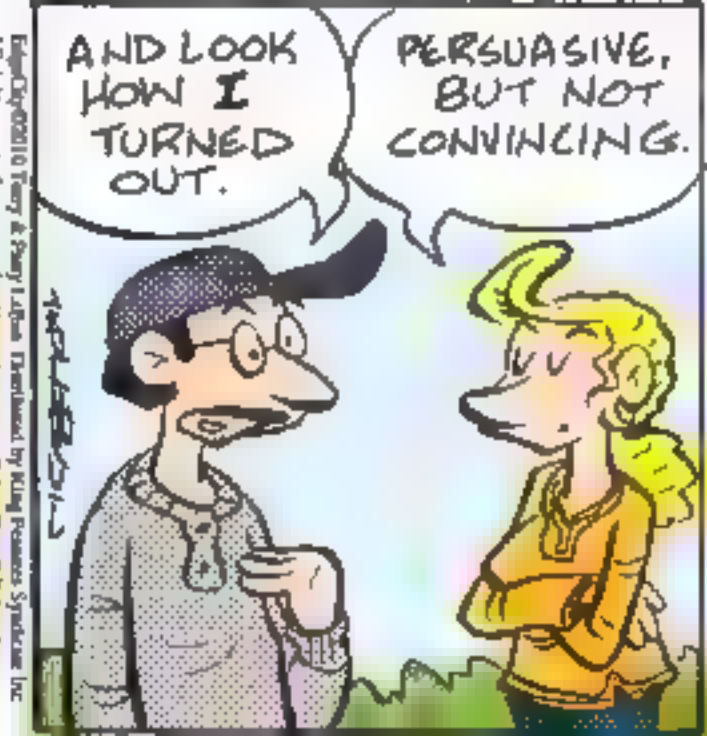



I THINK THE KIDS SHOULD GET AN ALLOWANCE.
IF THEY DO, THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE CHORES.
THAT'S A SEPARATE ISSUE. WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT THEY EACH HAVE SOME MONEY OF THEIR OWN TO SPEND.
9.21
IT'LL HELP PREPARE THEM FOR LIFE.
YEAH-- LIFE ON WELFARE.



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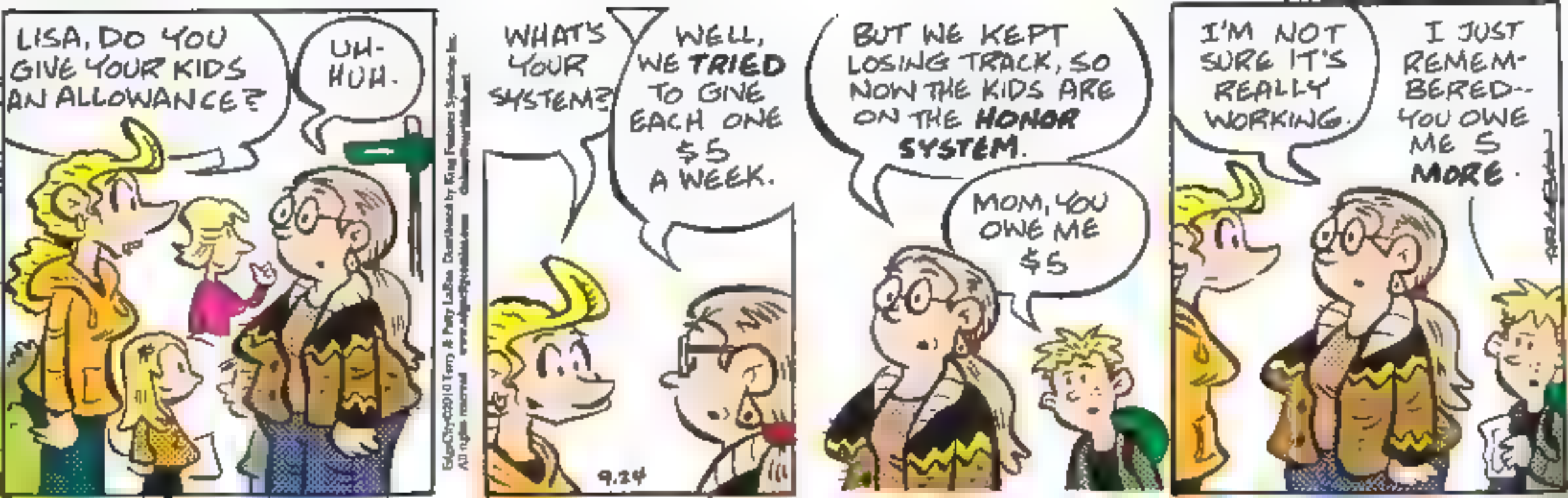
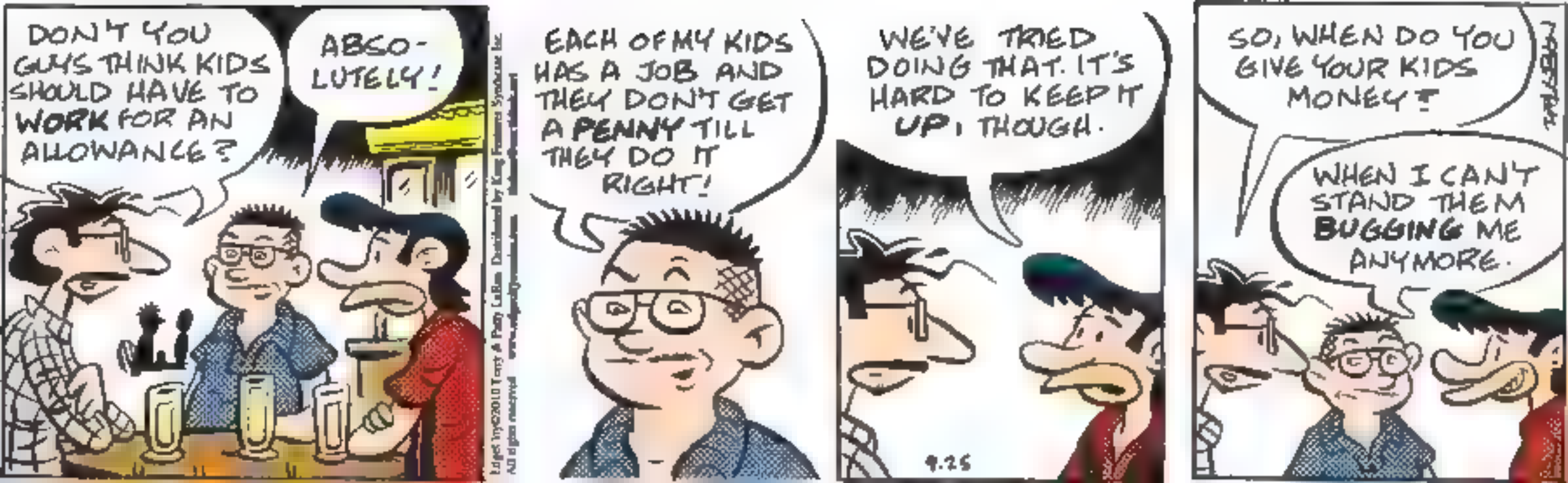
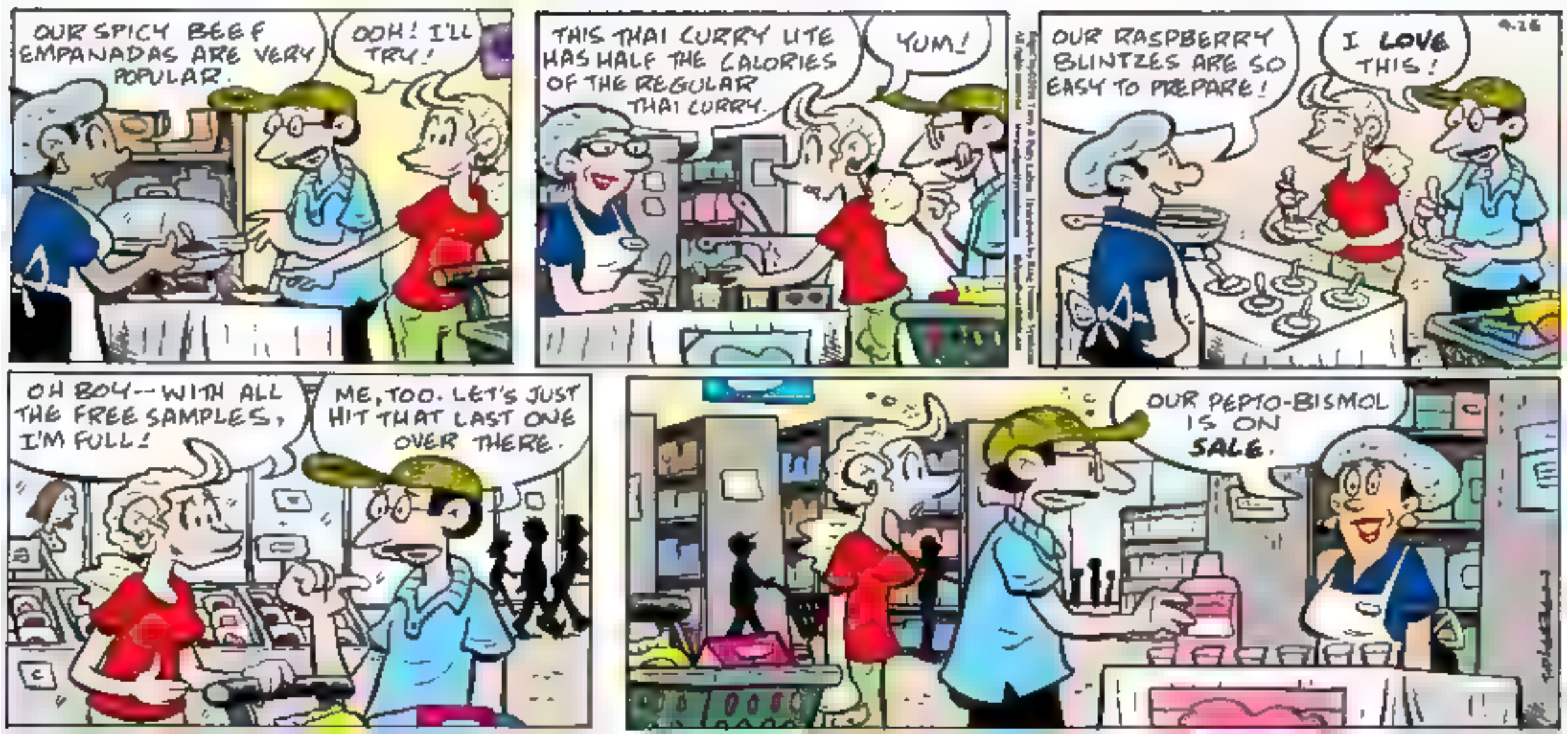
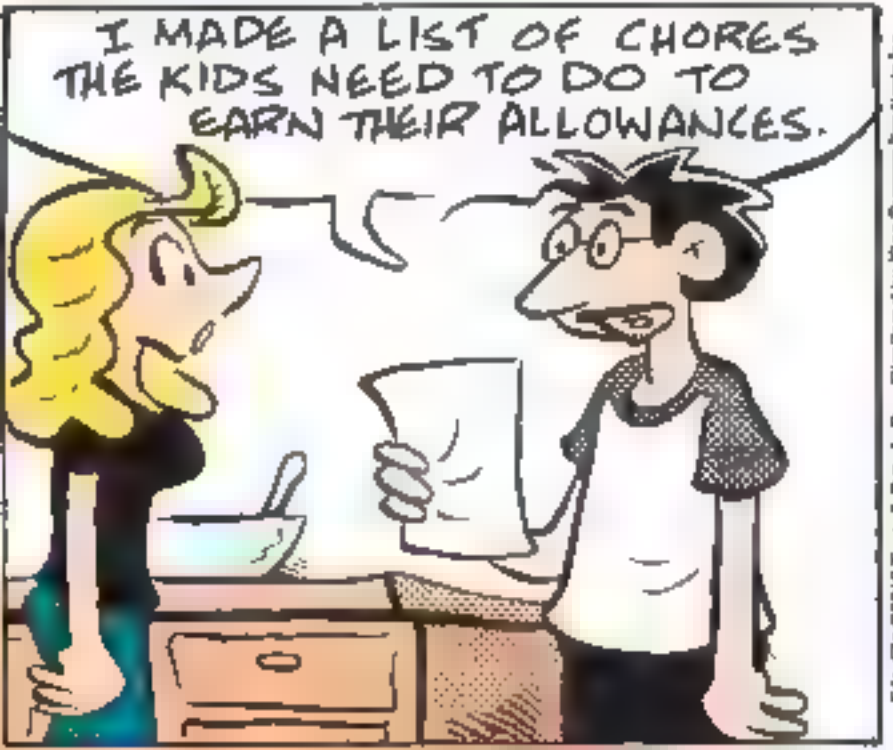
AUDREY, DO YOUR KIDS GET AN ALLOWANCE?
OH YES, ABBY!
EACH CHILD HAS A JOB, EACH JOB IS WORTH POINTS, AND EACH POINT IS WORTH MONEY.
AFTER JOBS ARE COMPLETED, WE HAVE AN INSPECTION, DURING WHICH POINTS CAN BE GAINED OR LOST ACCORDING TO THE WORK'S QUALITY.
HOW DO YOU KEEP TRACK OF ALL THAT?
YOU JUST NEED A LITTLE DISCIPLINE, RIGHT, HANNAH?
MA'AM YES MA'AM!
9.23


LISA, DO YOU GIVE YOUR KIDS AN ALLOWANCE?
UH-HUH.
WHAT'S YOUR SYSTEM?
WELL, WE TRIED TO GIVE EACH ONE $5 A WEEK.
9.24
BUT WE KEPT LOSING TRACK, SO NOW THE KIDS ARE ON THE HONOR SYSTEM.
MOM, YOU OWE ME $5
I'M NOT SURE IT'S REALLY WORKING.
I JUST REMEMBERED-- YOU OWE ME $ MORE.


DON'T YOU GUYS THINK KIDS SHOULD HAVE TO WORK FOR AN ALLOWANCE?
ABSO-LUTELY!
EACH OF MY KIDS HAS A JOB AND THEY DON'T GET A PENNY TILL THEY DO IT RIGHT!
WE'VE TRIED DOING THAT. IT'S HARD TO KEEP IT UP, THOUGH.
9.25
SO, WHEN DO YOU GIVE YOUR KIDS MONEY?
WHEN I CAN'T STAND THEM BUGGING ME ANYMORE.


OUR SPICY BEEF EMPANADAS ARE VERY POPULAR.
OOH! I'LL TRY!
THIS THAI CURRY LITE HAS HALF THE CALORIES OF THE REGULAR THAI CURRY.
YUM!
OUR RASPBERRY BLINTZES ARE SO EASY TO PREPARE!
I LOVE THIS!
OH BOY--WITH ALL THE FREE SAMPLES, I'M FULL!
ME, TOO. LET'S JUST HIT THAT LAST ONE OVER THERE.
OUR PEPTO-BISMOL IS ON SALE.



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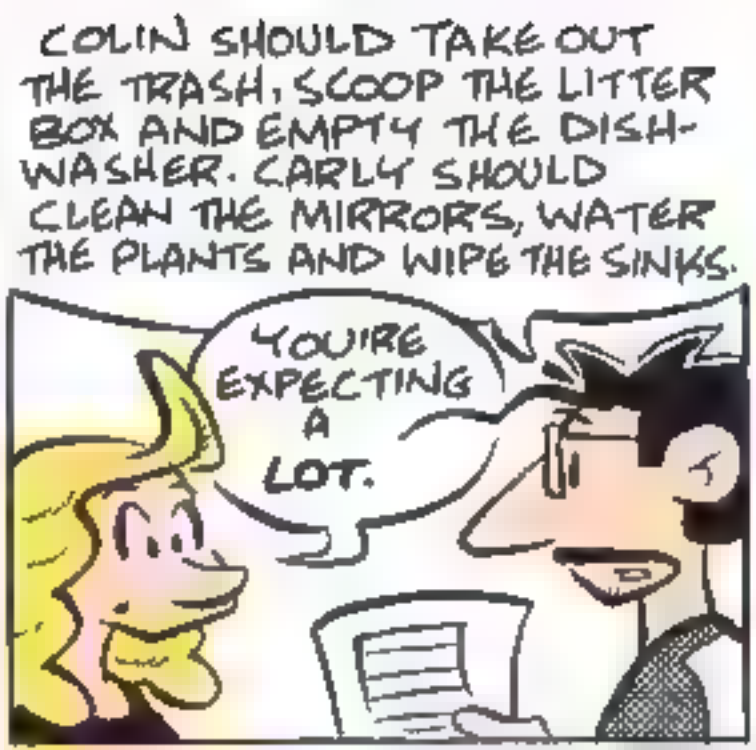

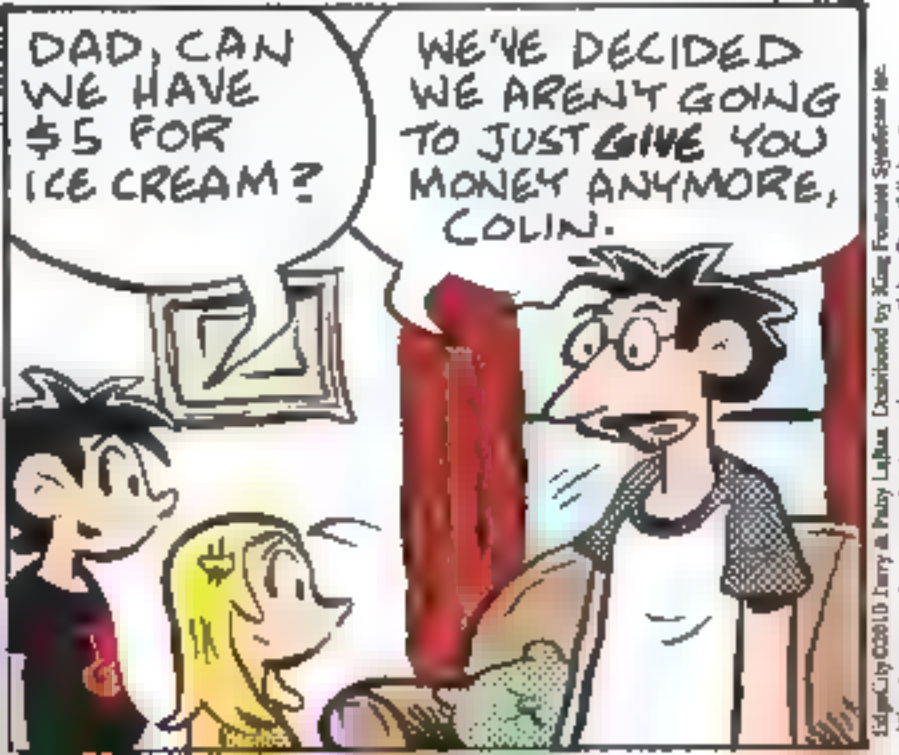

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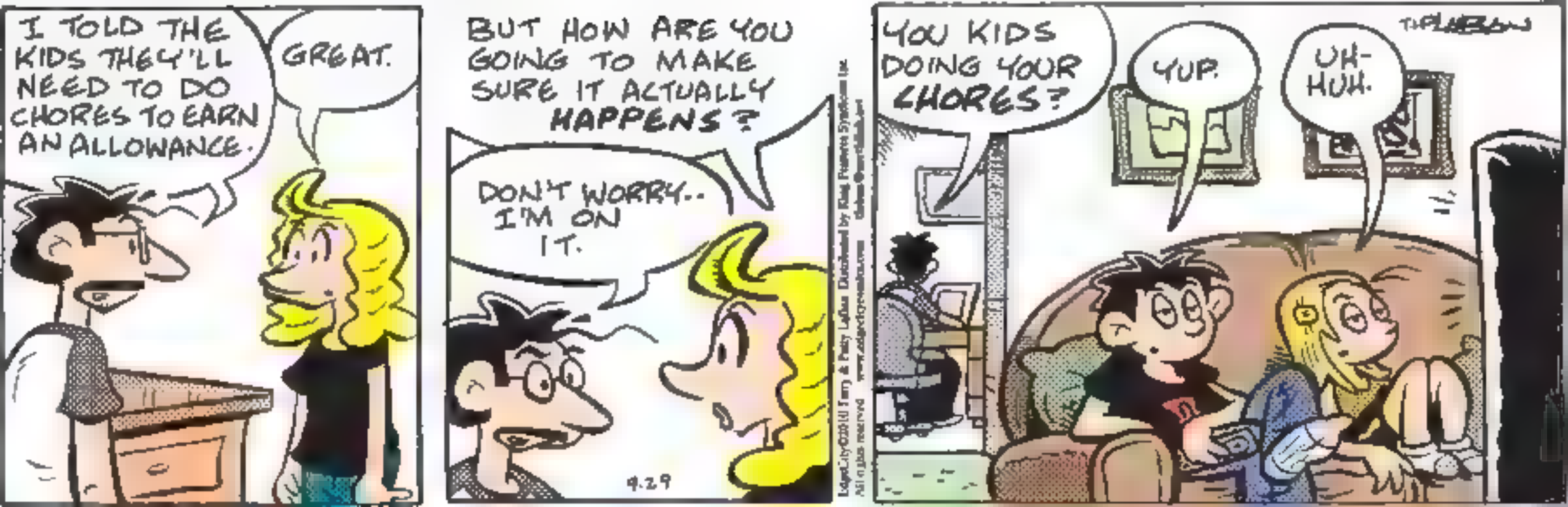
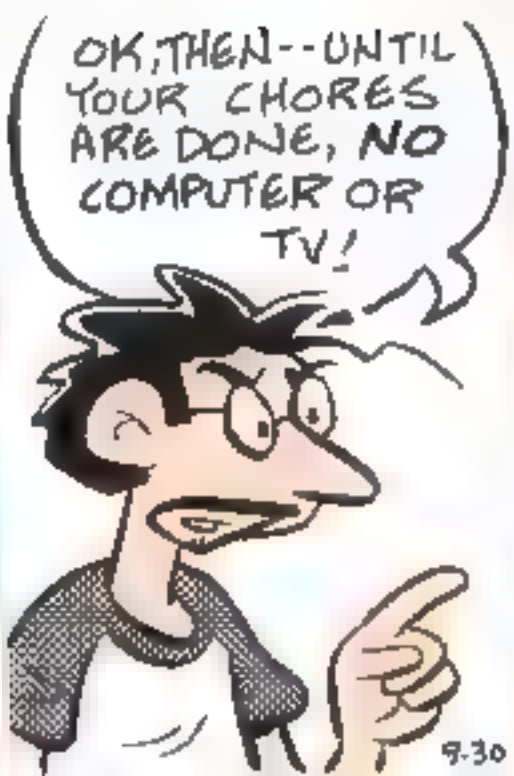

I TOLD THE KIDS THEY'LL NEED TO DO CHORES TO EARN AN ALLOWANCE.
GREAT.
BUT HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE SURE IT ACTUALLY HAPPENS?
DON'T WORRY.. I'M ON IT.
9.29
YOU KIDS DOING YOUR CHORES?
YUP.
UH-HUH.



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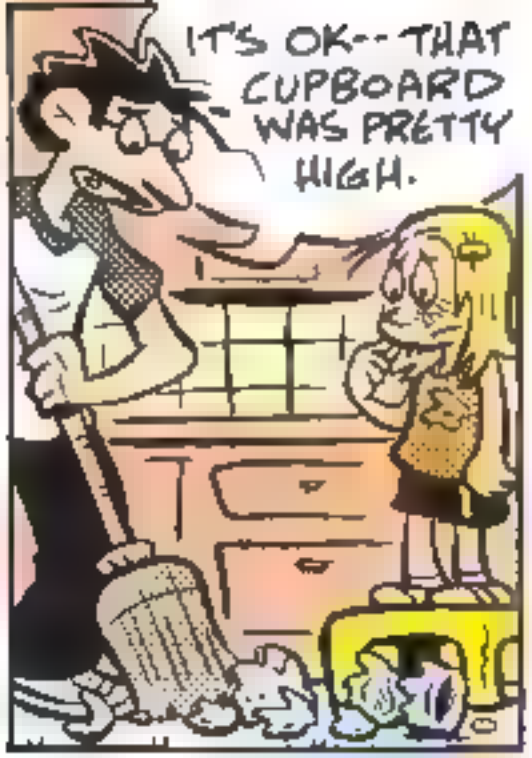

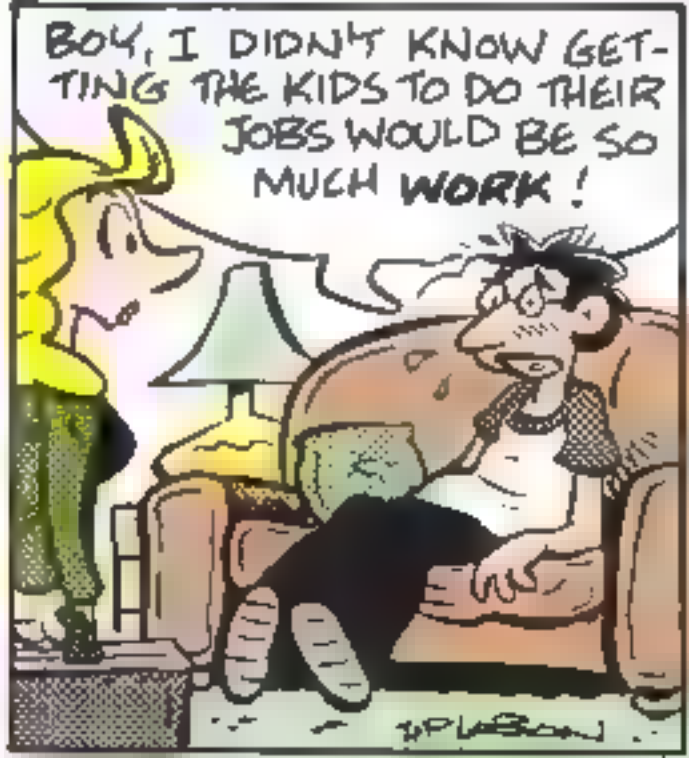

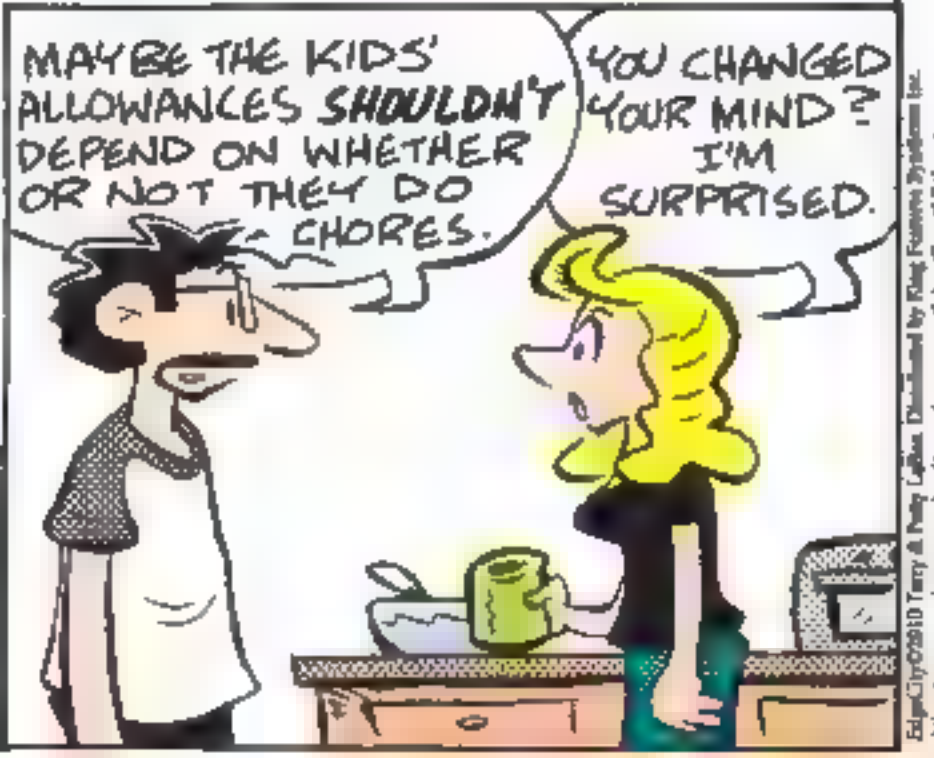

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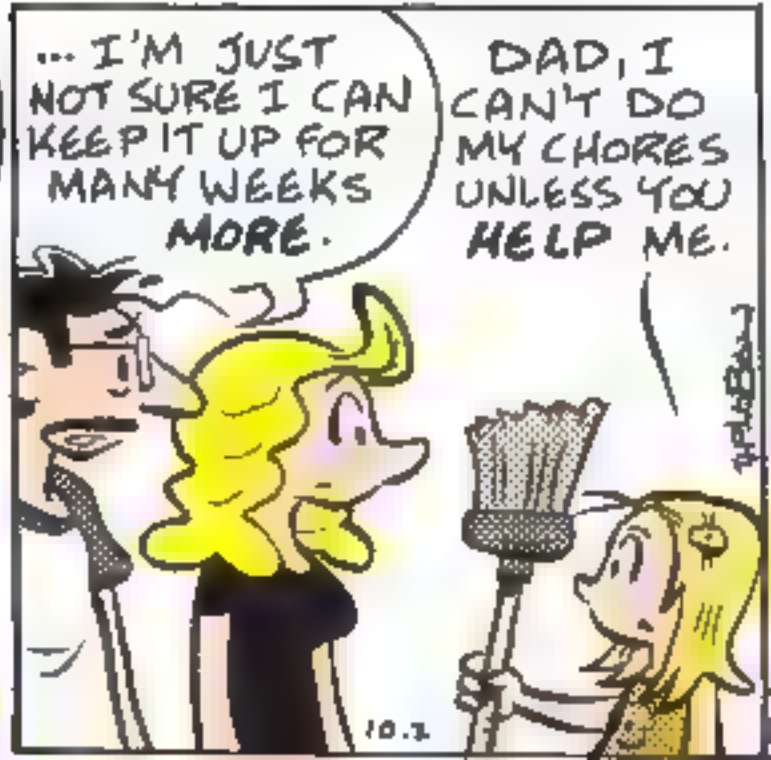
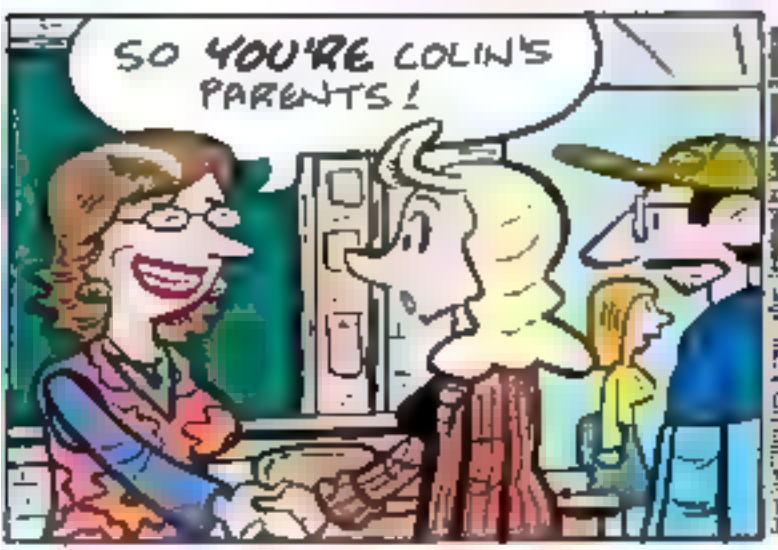
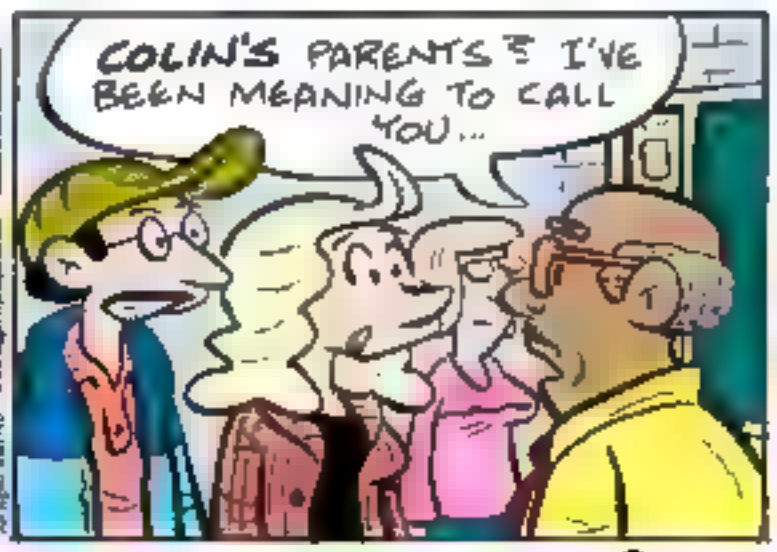


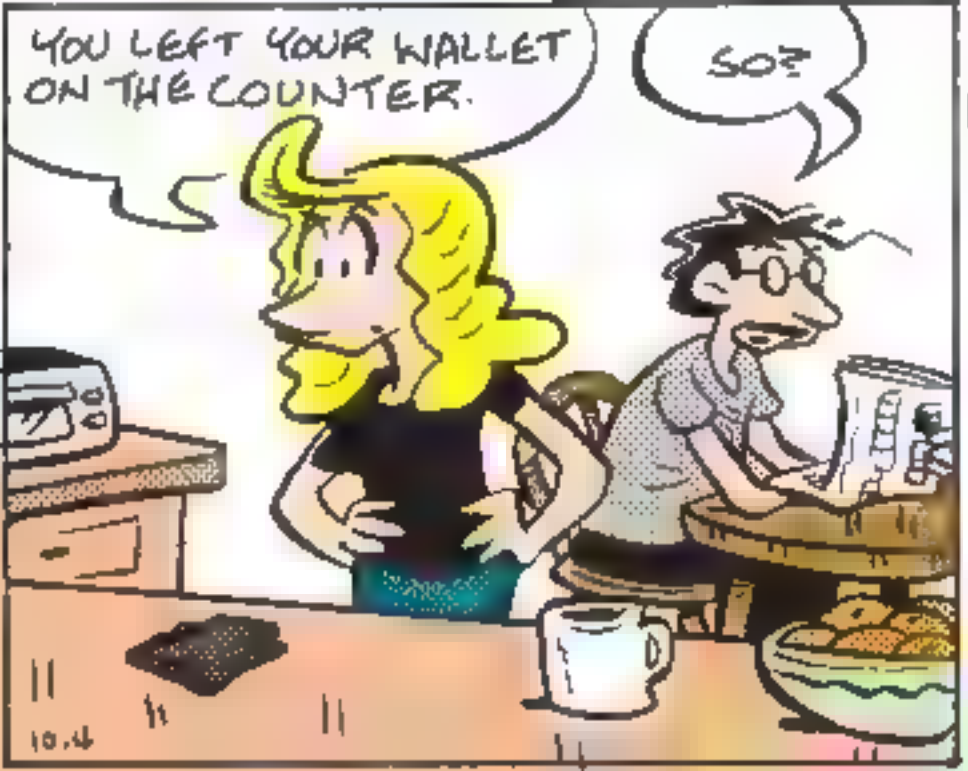

SO YOU'RE COLIN'S PARENTS!


COLIN'S PARENTS? I'VE BEEN MEANING TO CALL YOU...

OH! MR. AND MRS. ARDIN-- COULD YOU STAY A MINUTE AND TALK?

I'VE NOTICED THAT OUR SON DOESN'T MAKE A VERY GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION.
Back To School Night

WELL, AT LEAST HE DOESN'T GET IGNORED.



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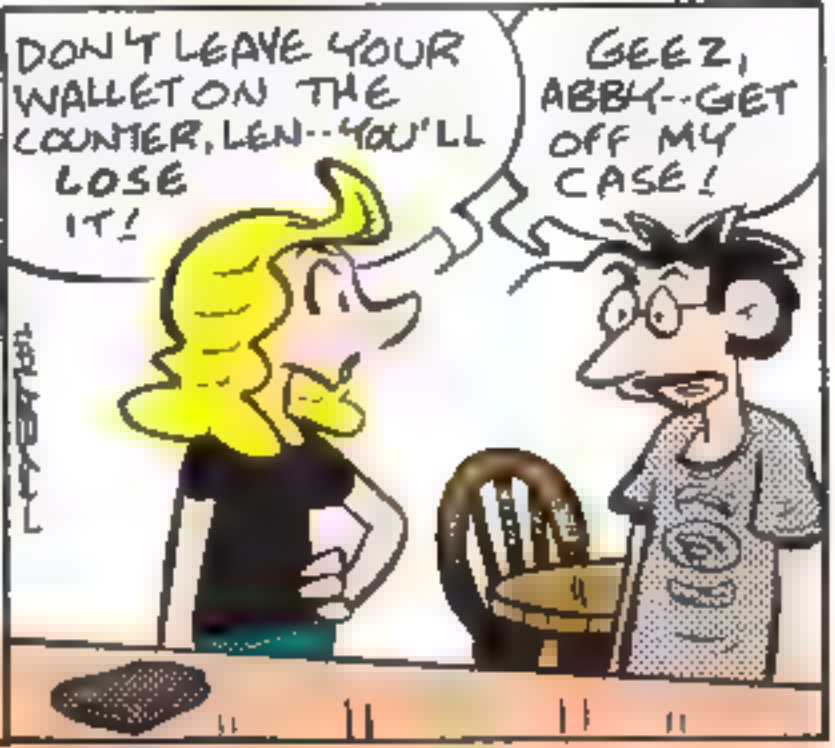

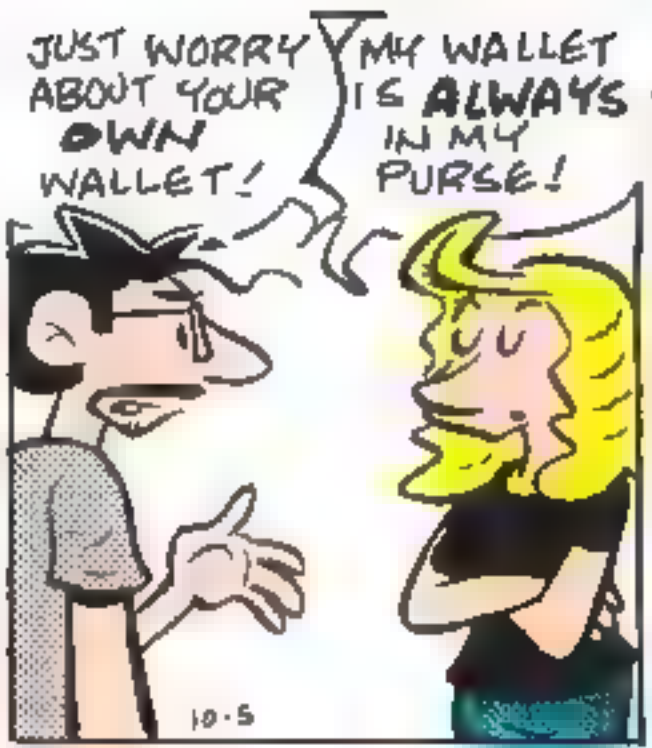

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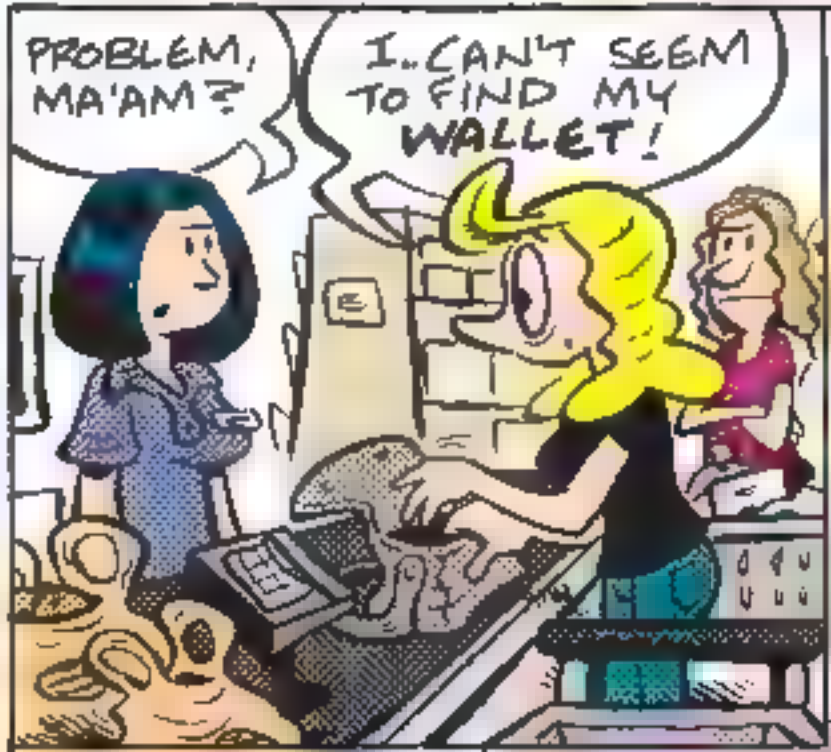

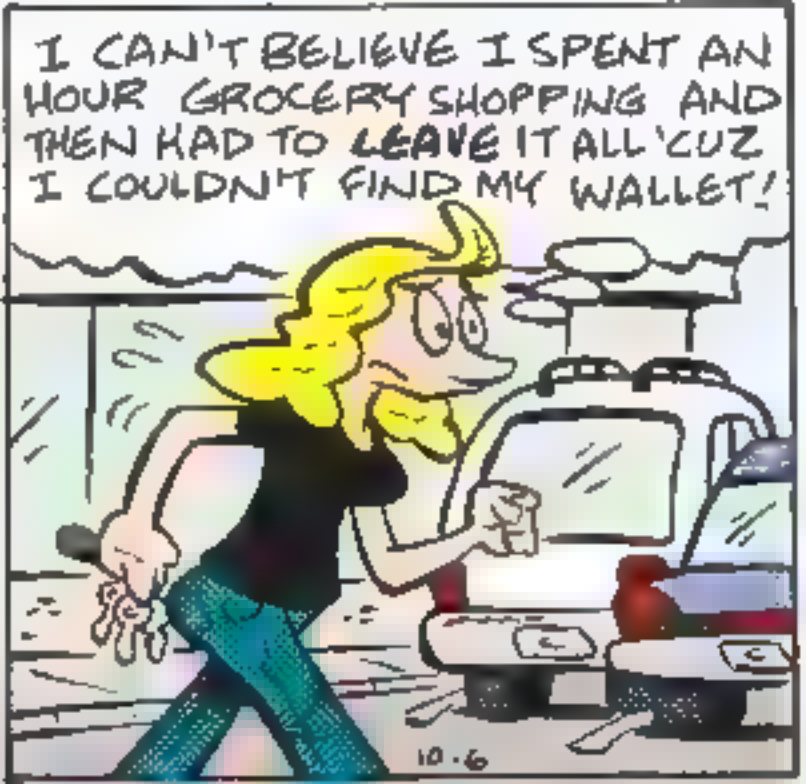

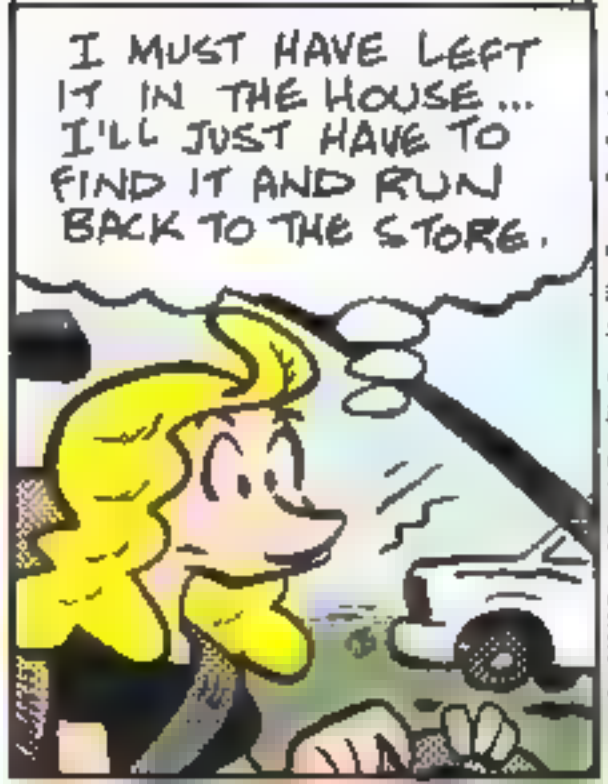

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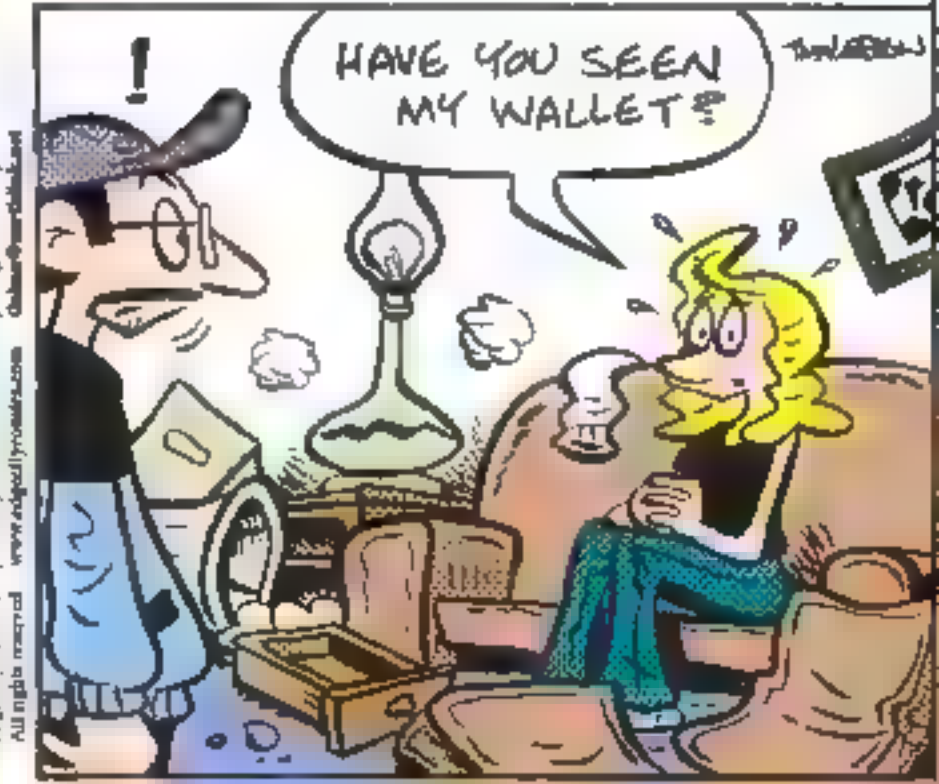

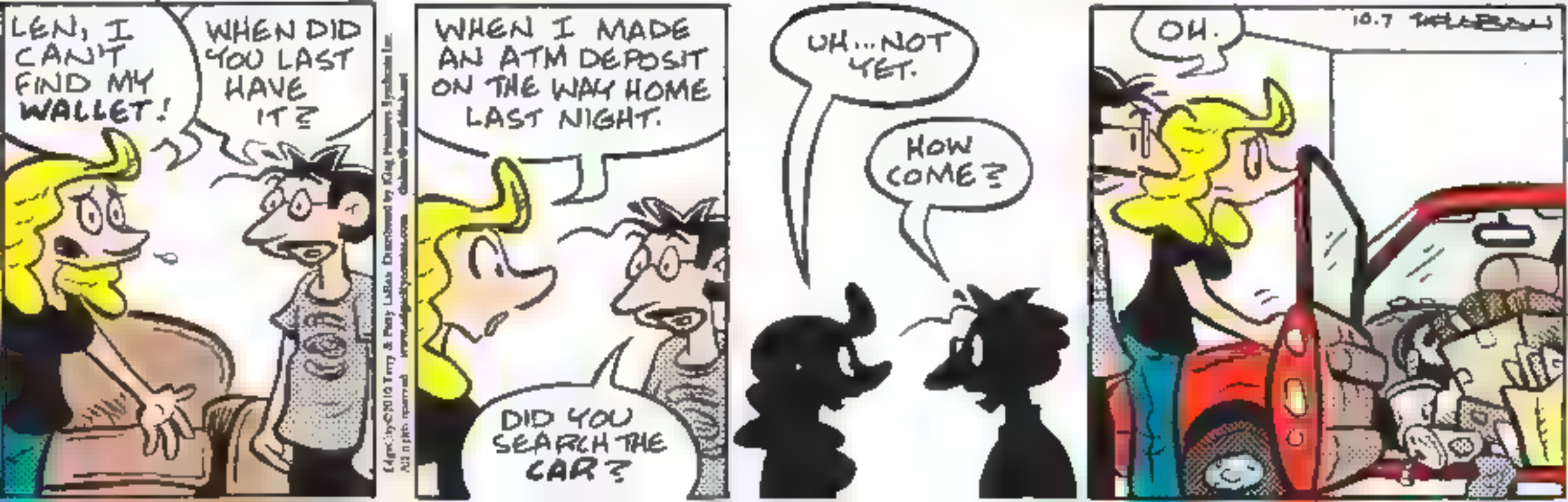
LEN, I CAN'T FIND MY WALLET!
WHEN DID YOU LAST HAVE IT?
WHEN I MADE AN ATM DEPOSIT ON THE WAY HOME LAST NIGHT.
DID YOU SEARCH THE CAR?
UH...NOT YET.
HOW COME?
OH.

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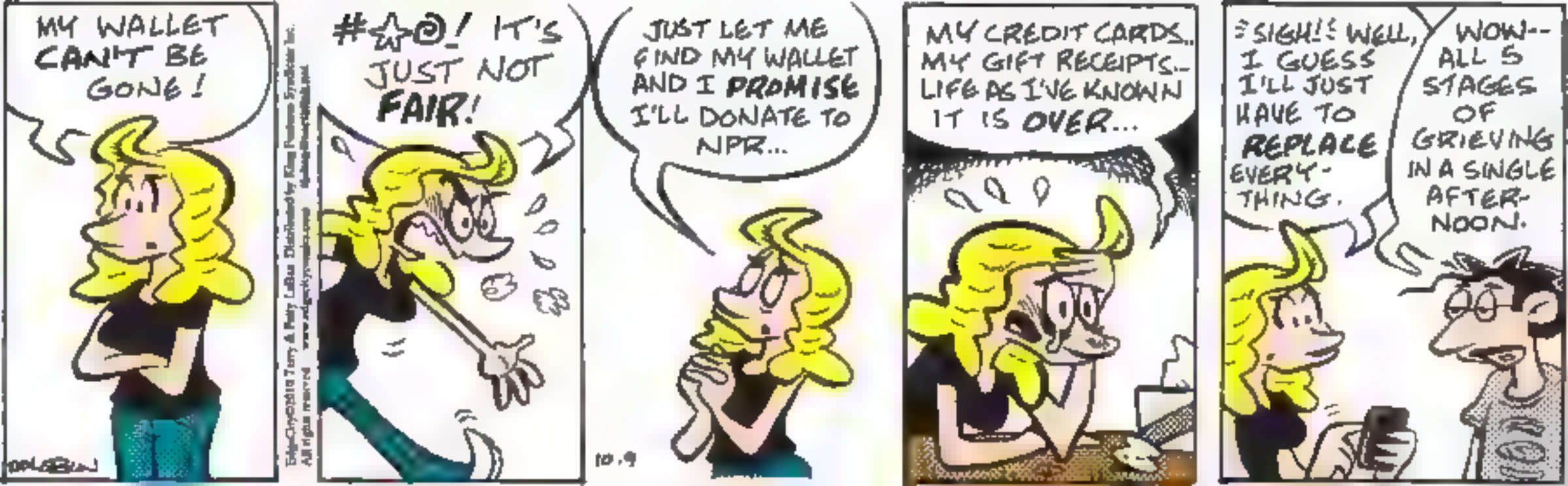
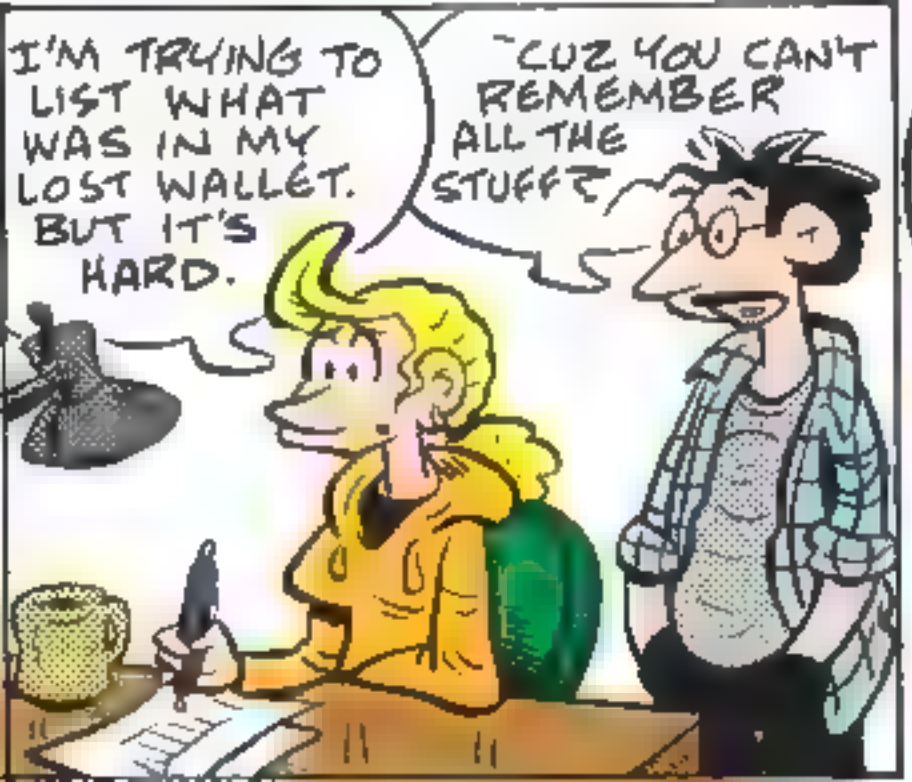
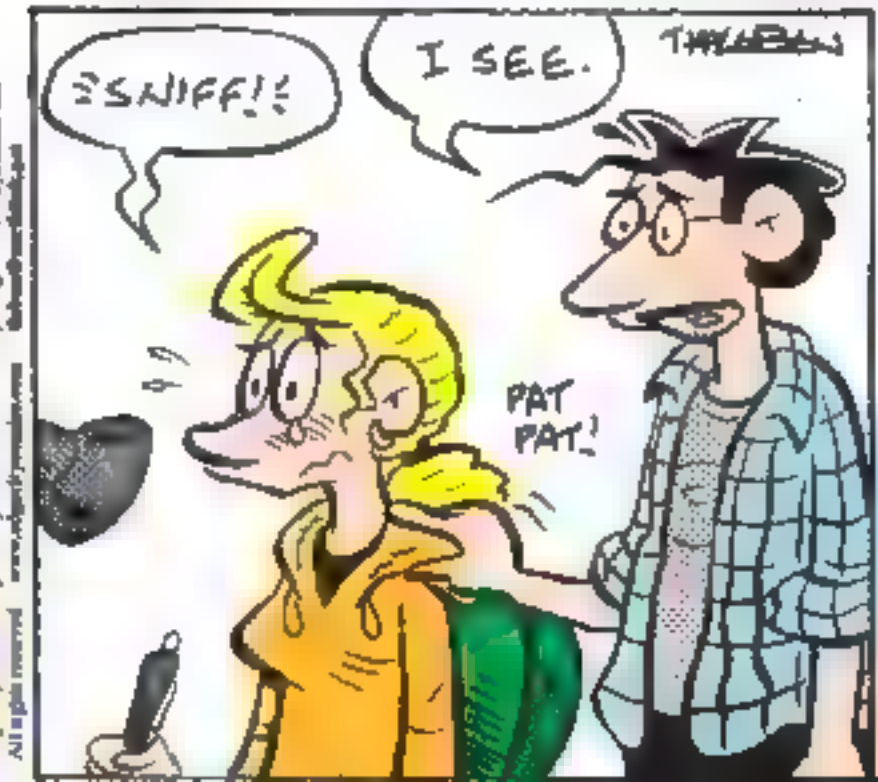

MY WALLET CAN'T BE GONE!
#☆@! IT'S JUST NOT FAIR!
JUST LET ME FIND MY WALLET AND I PROMISE I'LL DONATE TO NPR...
10.9
MY CREDIT CARDS.. MY GIFT RECEIPTS.. LIFE AS I'VE KNOWN IT IS OVER...
SIGH!! WELL, I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO REPLACE EVERY-THING.
WOW-- ALL 5 STAGES OF GRIEVING IN A SINGLE AFTER-NOON.

DARN IT! I CAN'T FIND MY KEYS!
I'M SURE I PUT THEM ON THE DRESSER LAST NIGHT-- AND NOW THEY'RE GONE!
SOMEBODY MOVED THEM! I KNOW IT!!
AAAGH! I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING IN THIS STUPID HOUSE!
HERE--THEY WERE IN YOUR OTHER PANTS.
OH...COOL! THANKS!
CAN WE TALK A MINUTE?
SIGH!! NOW WHAT?
10-10


I'M TRYING TO LIST WHAT WAS IN MY LOST WALLET. BUT IT'S HARD.
'CUZ YOU CAN'T REMEMBER ALL THE STUFF?

OH, NO--I REMEMBER EVERYTHING-- MY CREDIT CARD... MY INSURANCE CARD... THE BABY PHOTOS OF THE KIDS...


SNIFF!
I SEE.
PAT PAT!

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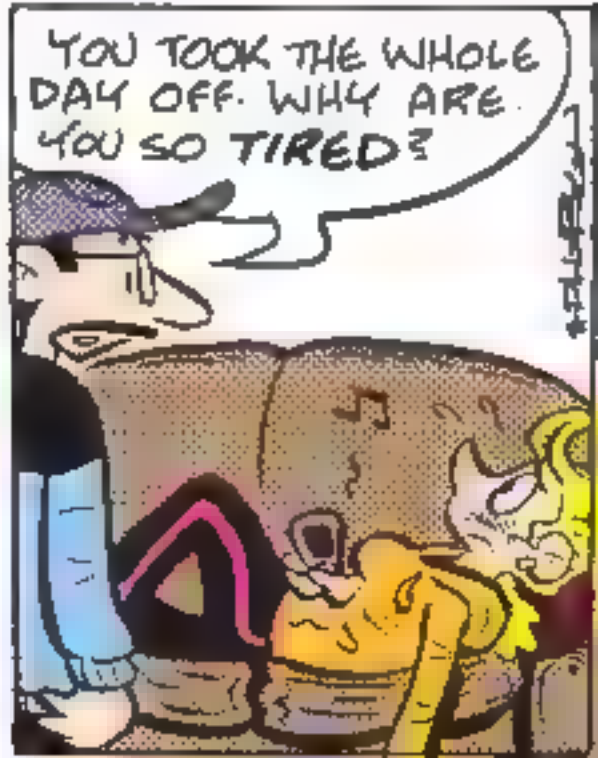
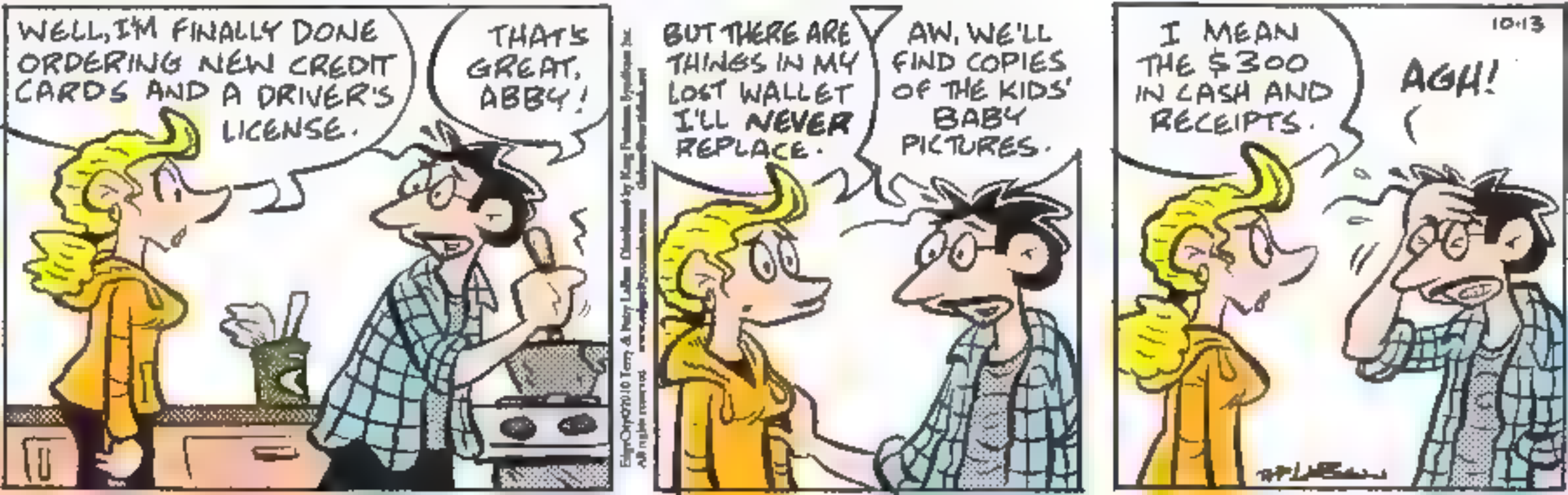
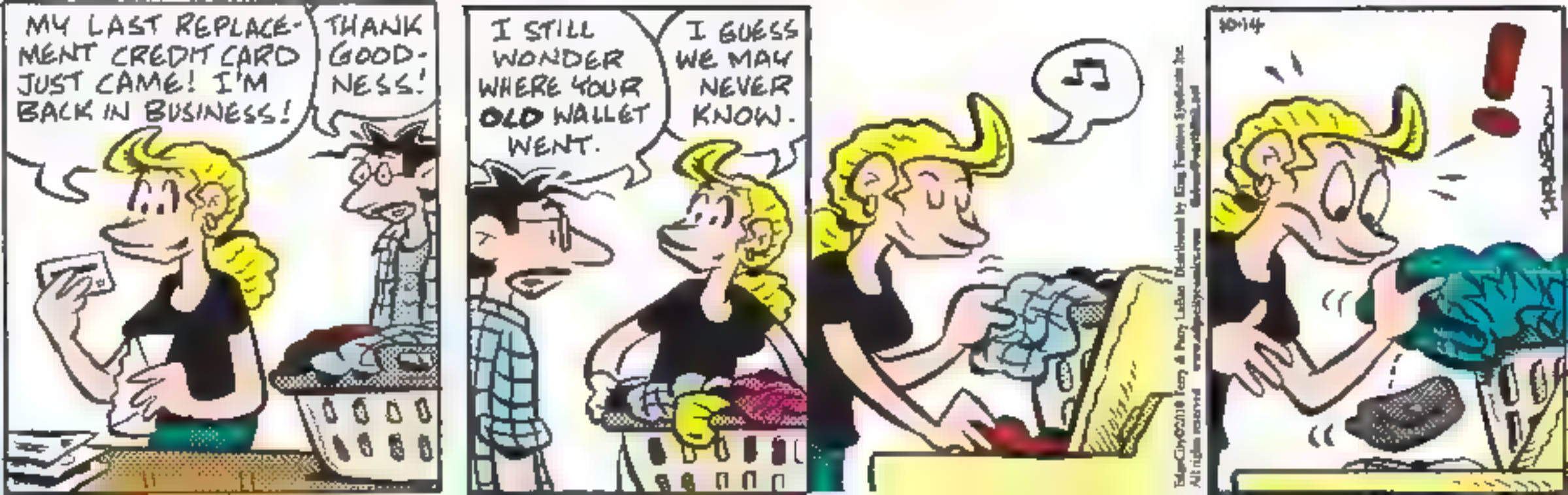
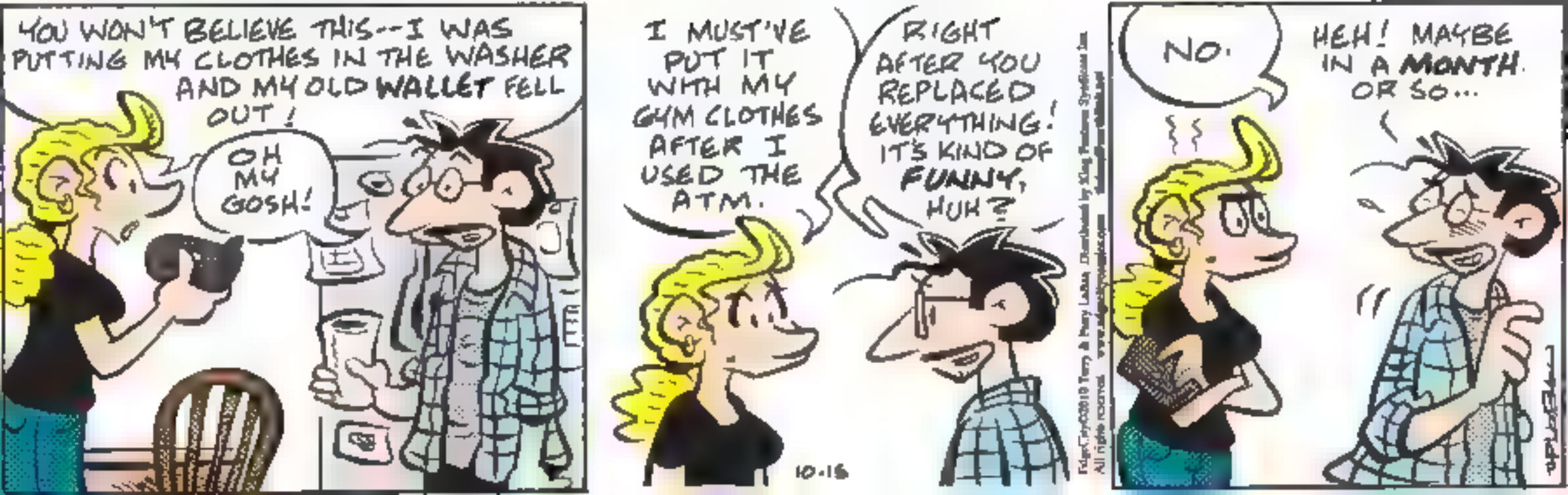
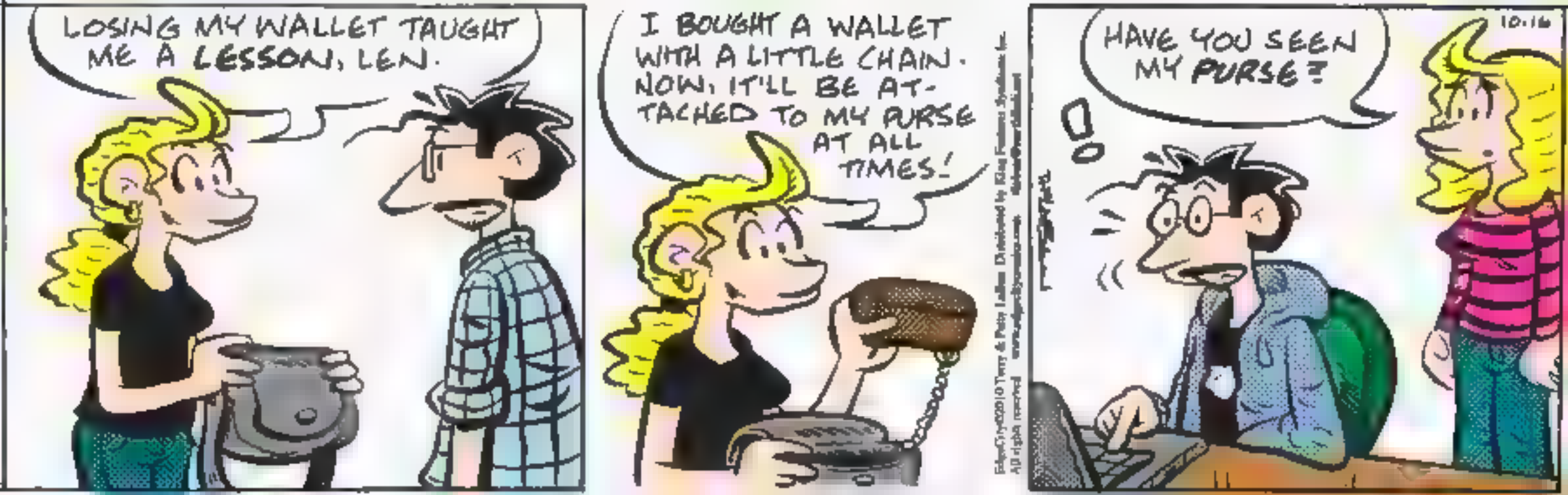
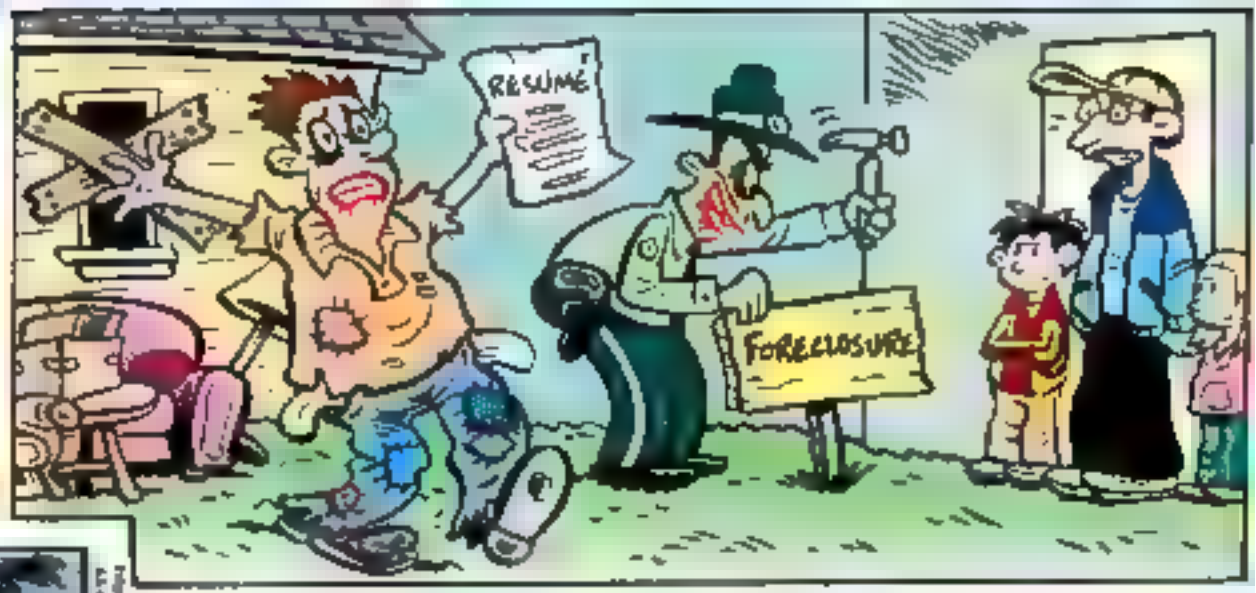


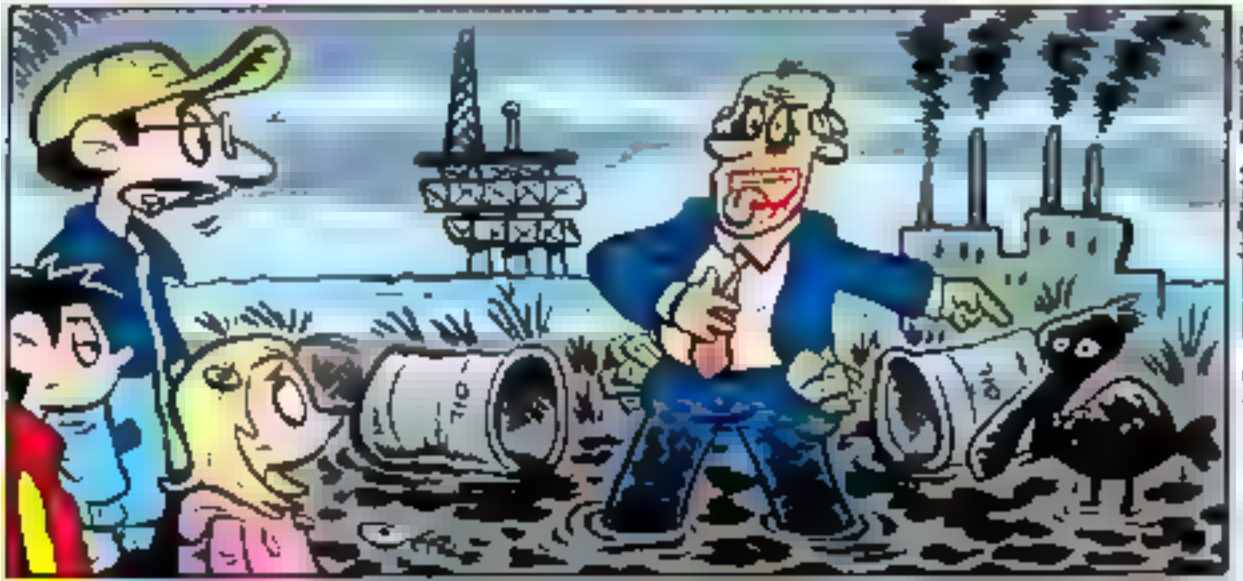

WELL, I'M FINALLY DONE ORDERING NEW CREDIT CARDS AND A DRIVER'S LICENSE.
THAT'S GREAT, ABBY!
BUT THERE ARE THINGS IN MY LOST WALLET I'LL NEVER REPLACE.
AW, WE'LL FIND COPIES OF THE KIDS' BABY PICTURES.
I MEAN THE $300 IN CASH AND RECEIPTS.
AGH!
10-13


MY LAST REPLACEMENT CREDIT CARD JUST CAME! I'M BACK IN BUSINESS!
THANK GOODNESS!
I STILL WONDER WHERE YOUR OLD WALLET WENT.
I GUESS WE MAY NEVER KNOW.
10-14

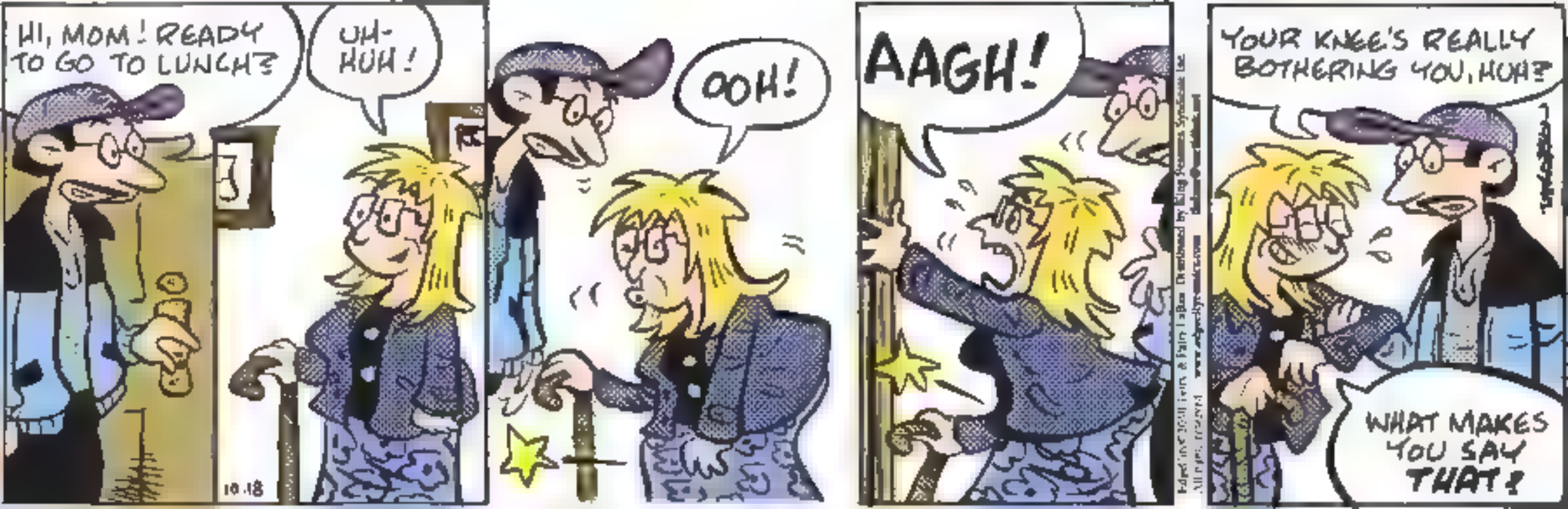

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS--I WAS PUTTING MY CLOTHES IN THE WASHER AND MY OLD WALLET FELL OUT!
OH MY GOSH!
I MUST'VE PUT IT WITH MY GYM CLOTHES AFTER I USED THE ATM.
RIGHT AFTER YOU REPLACED EVERYTHING! IT'S KIND OF FUNNY, HUH?
10-16
NO.
HEH! MAYBE IN A MONTH OR SO...

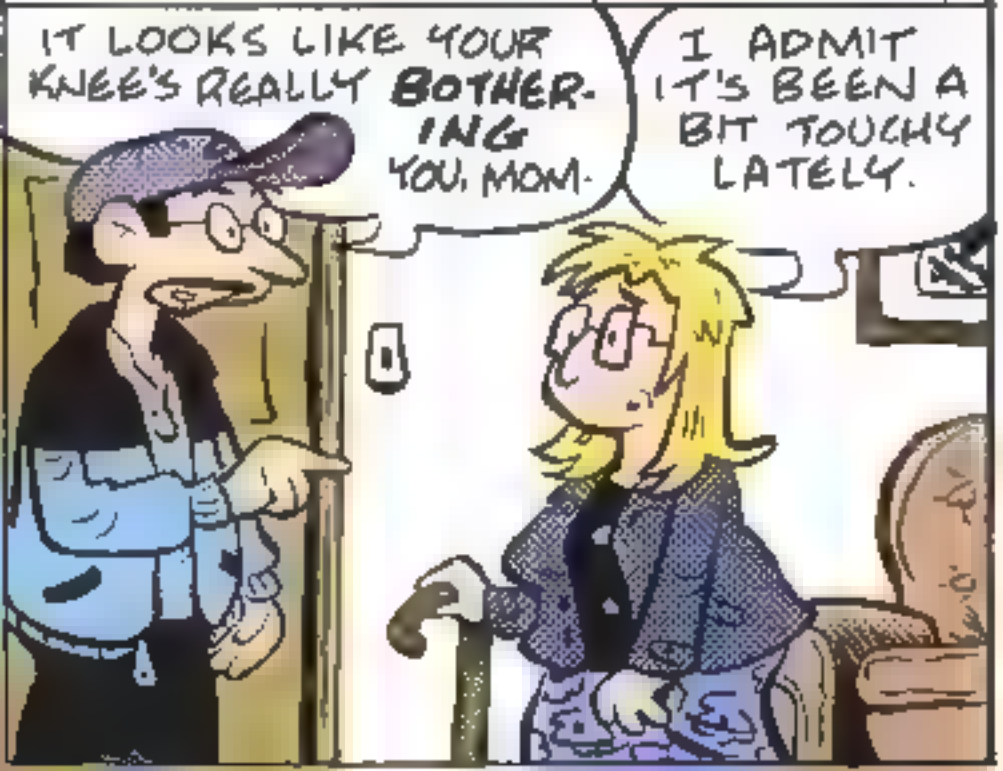

LOSING MY WALLET TAUGHT ME A LESSON, LEN.
I BOUGHT A WALLET WITH A LITTLE CHAIN. NOW, IT'LL BE ATTACHED TO MY PURSE AT ALL TIMES!
HAVE YOU SEEN MY PURSE?
10-16

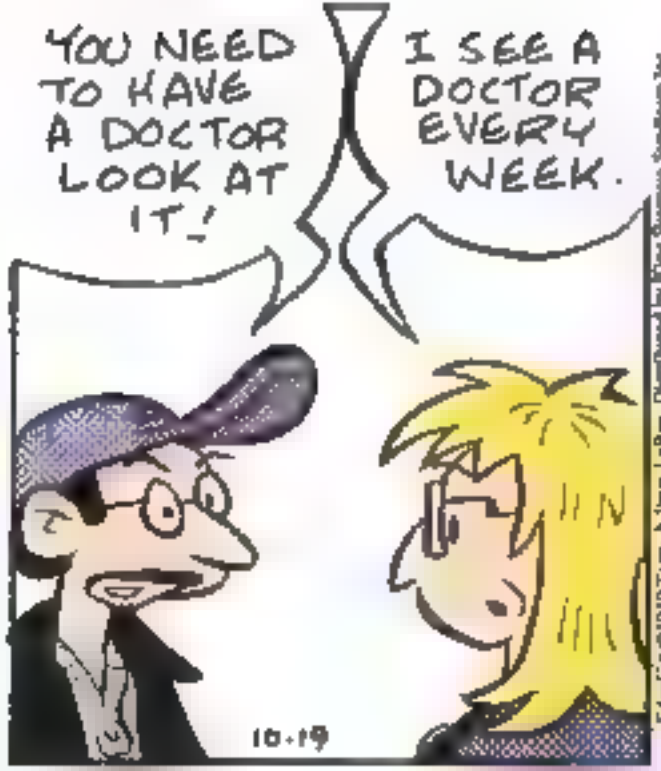

RESUME
FORECLOSURE



NO ZOMBIES OR VAMPIRES!
THAT SPOOKHOUSE WASN'T SCARY AT ALL.
OUSE of HORROR


HI, MOM! READY TO GO TO LUNCH?
UH-HUH!
10.18
OOH!
AAGH!
YOUR KNEE'S REALLY BOTHERING YOU, HUH?
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?





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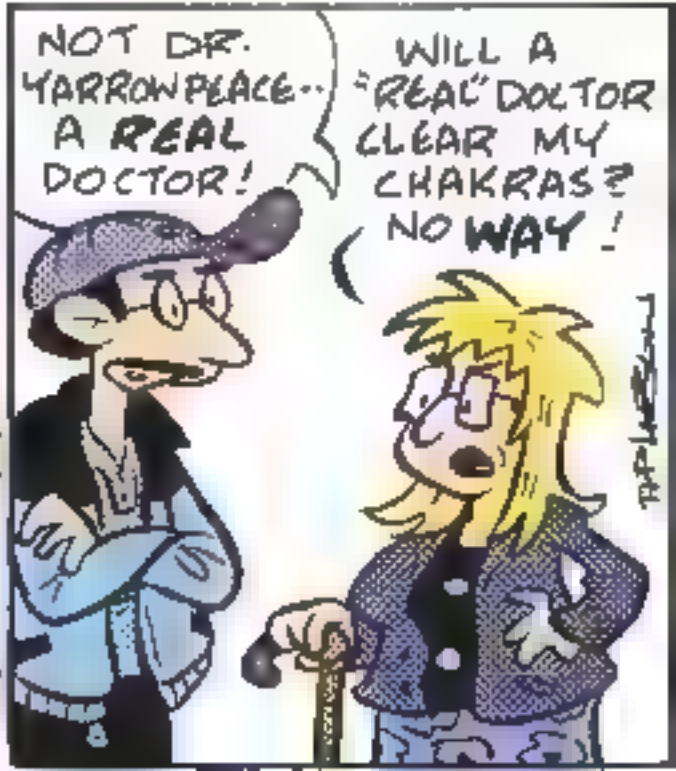

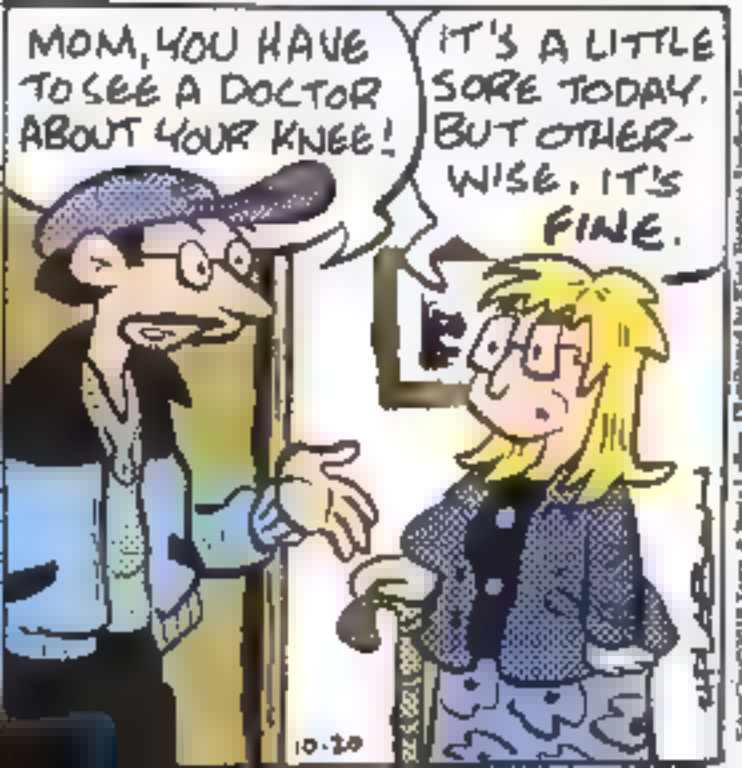

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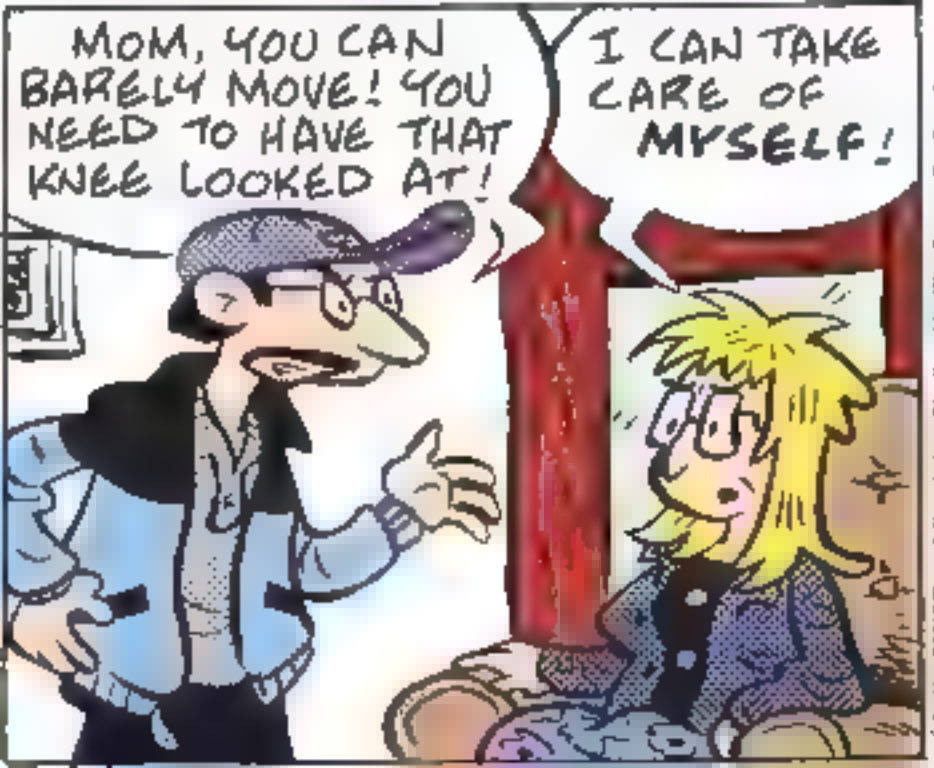
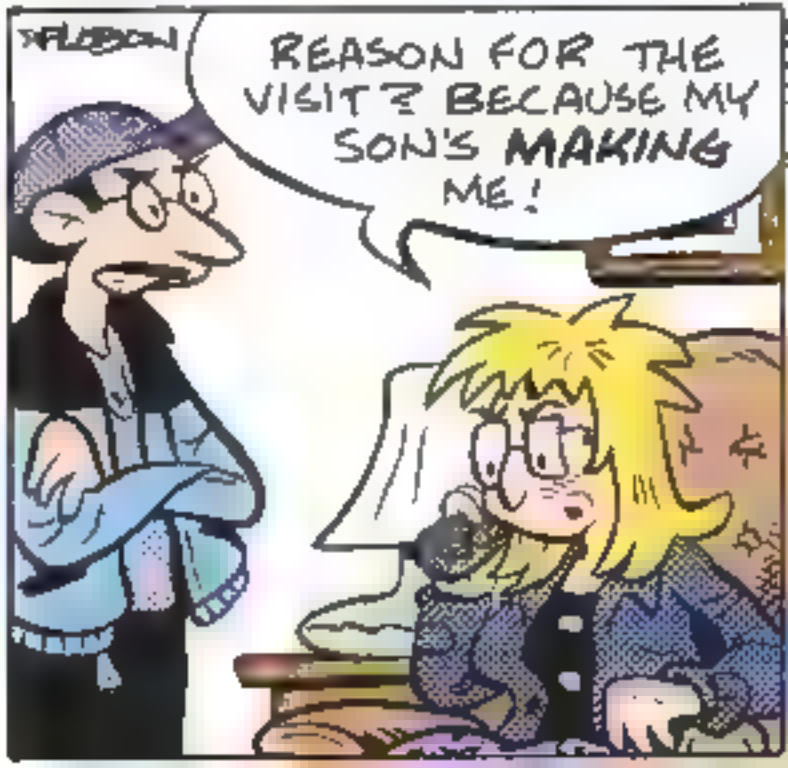

MOM, YOU CAN BARELY MOVE! YOU NEED TO HAVE THAT KNEE LOOKED AT!
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!

LOOK, IF YOU DON'T CALL A DOCTOR, I WILL!
OH, FINE! GIVE ME THE PHONE!
10-21


REASON FOR THE VISIT? BECAUSE MY SON'S MAKING ME!

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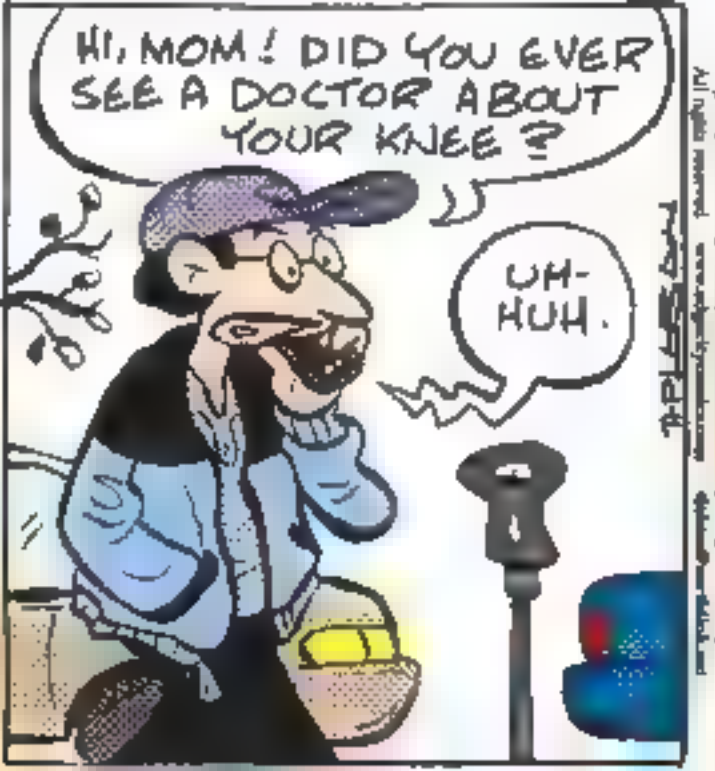

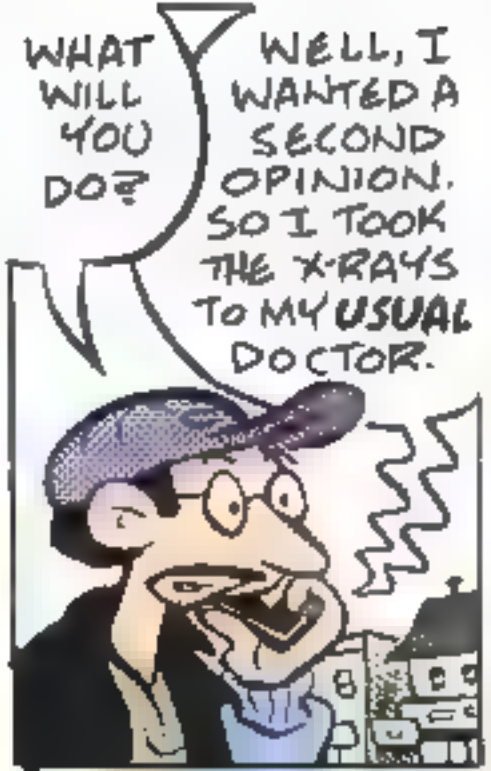

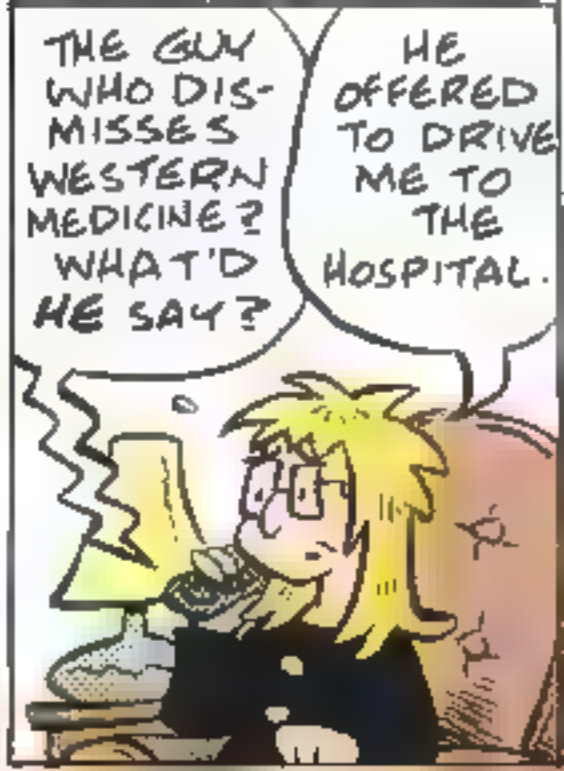

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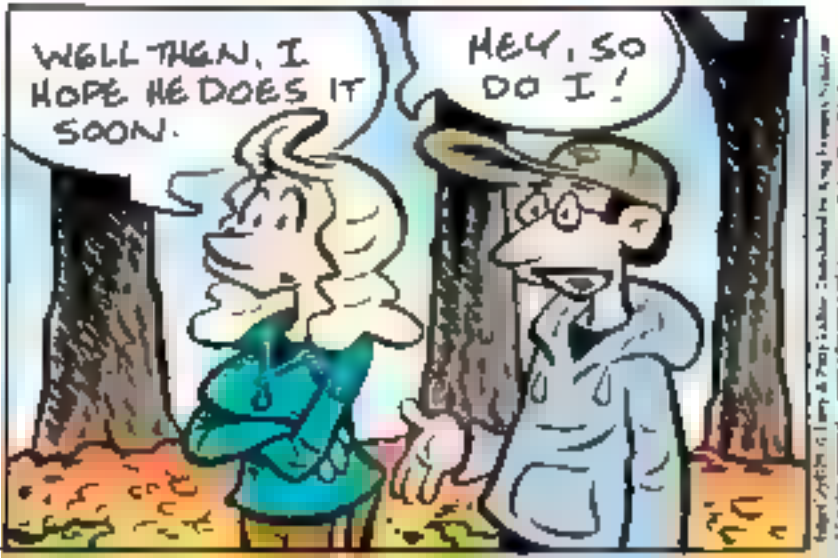
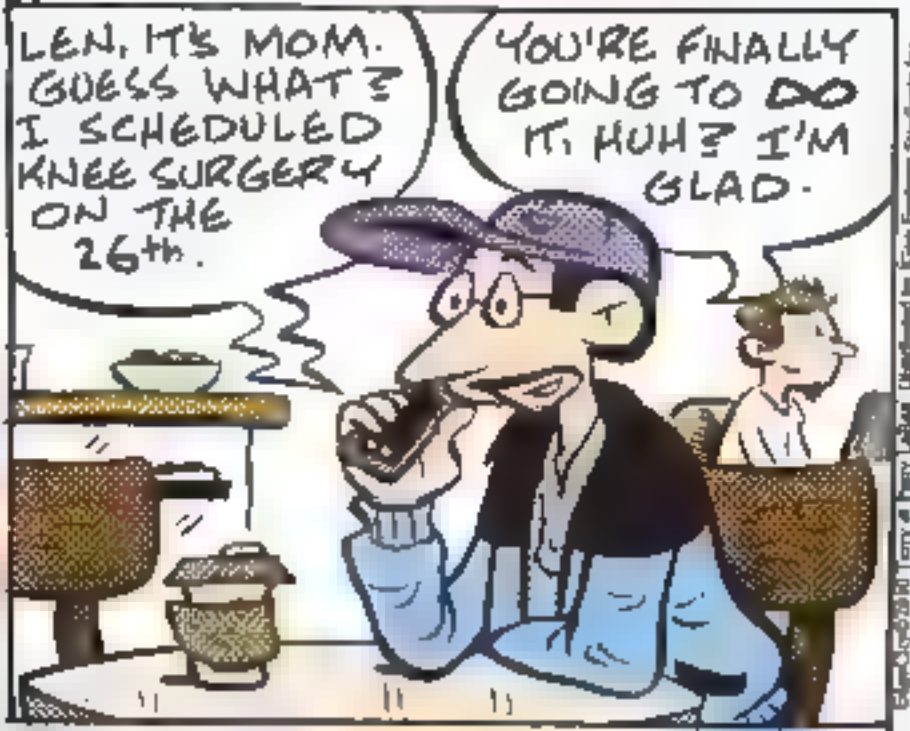
THE LEAVES ARE GETTING TO BE A MESS. ARE YOU GOING TO PICK THEM UP SOON?
I HOPE SO.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL DOWN.
YEAH -- BUT THE GUY NEXT DOOR HASN'T DONE HIS LEAVES YET.

IF I DO OUR LEAVES NOW, HIS LEAVES WILL JUST BLOW INTO OUR YARD AND I'LL HAVE TO DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.


WELL THEN, I HOPE HE DOES IT SOON.
HEY, SO DO I!

YOU PLAN ON RAKING UP THE LEAVES ANYTIME SOON?
I'M WAITING TILL AFTER THE ARDINS FINISH THEIRS.
10.24



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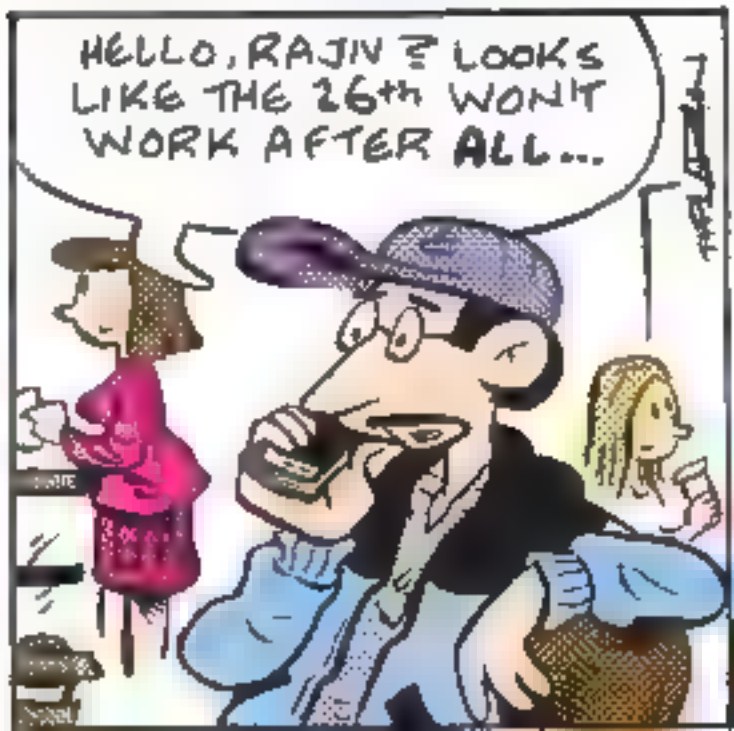

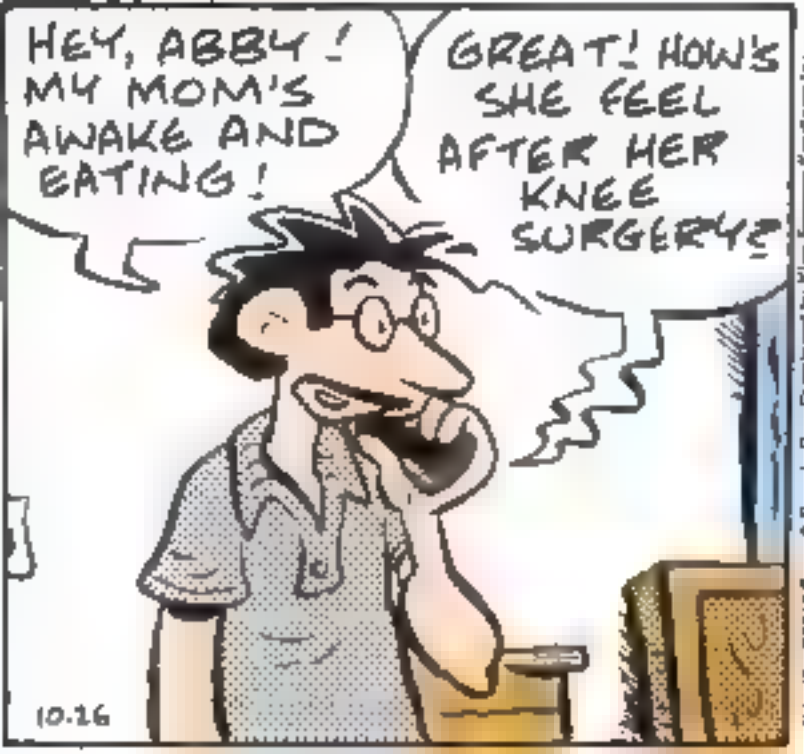

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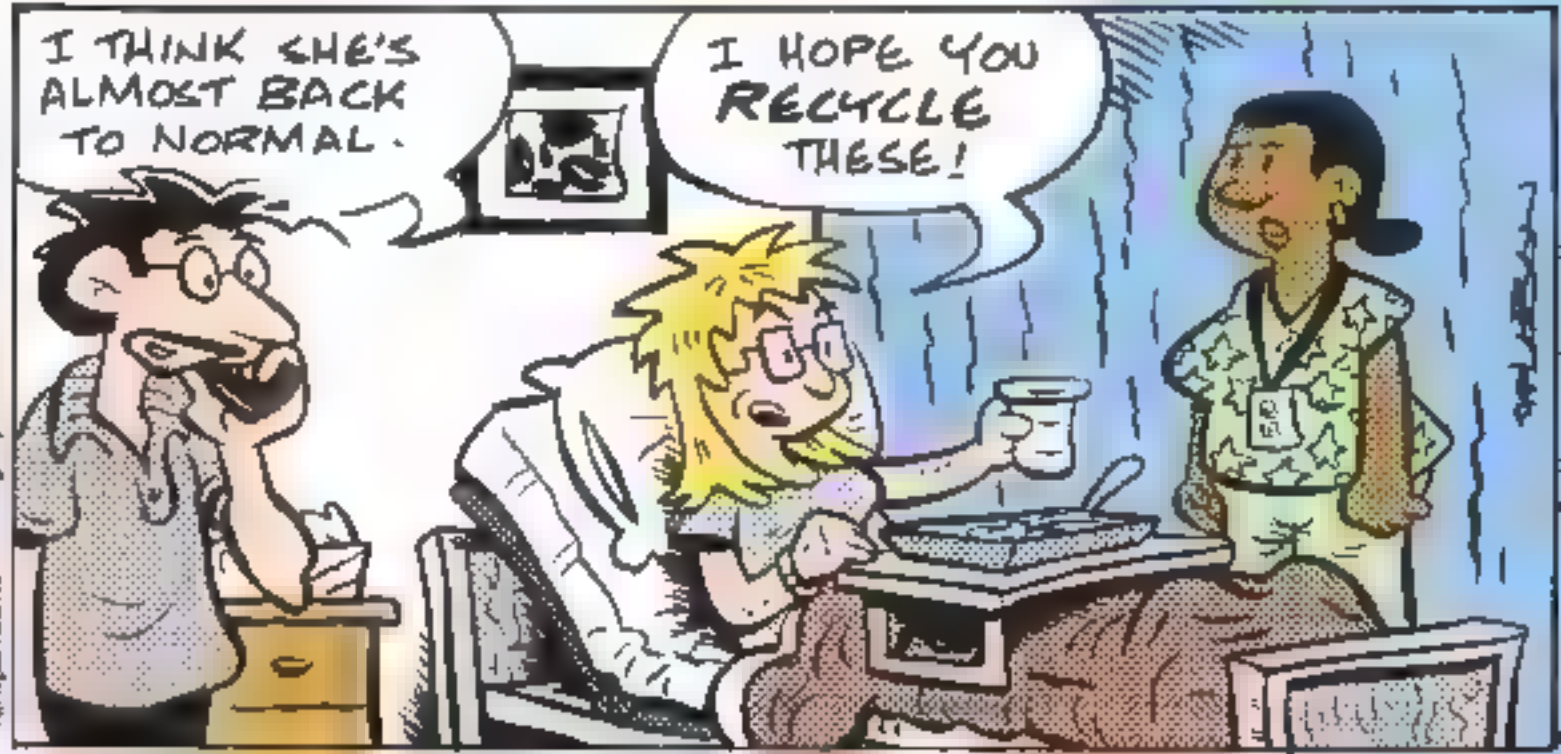
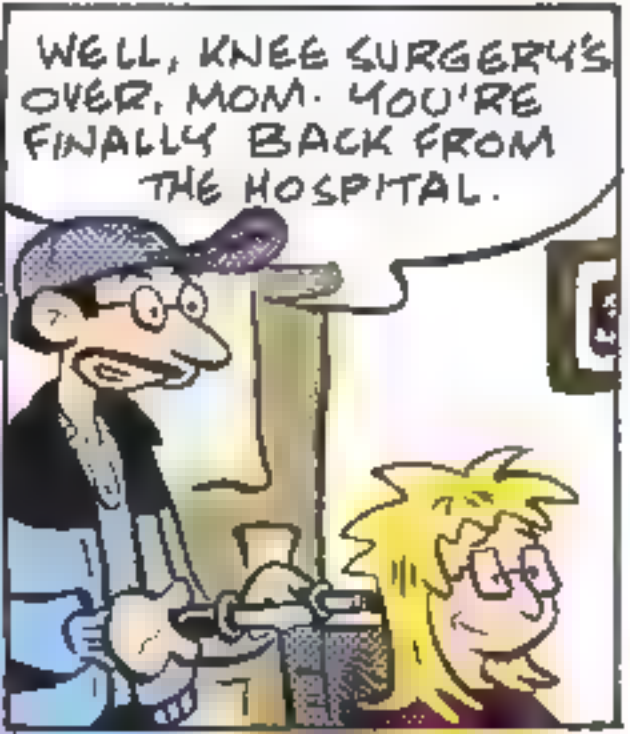
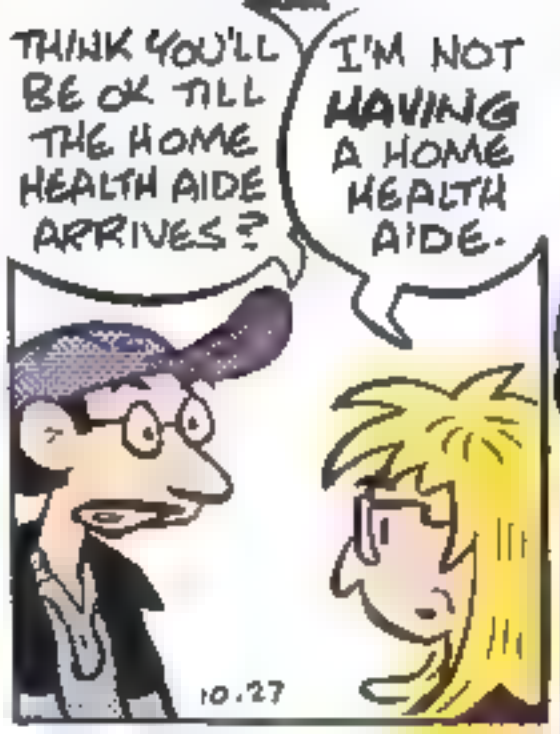
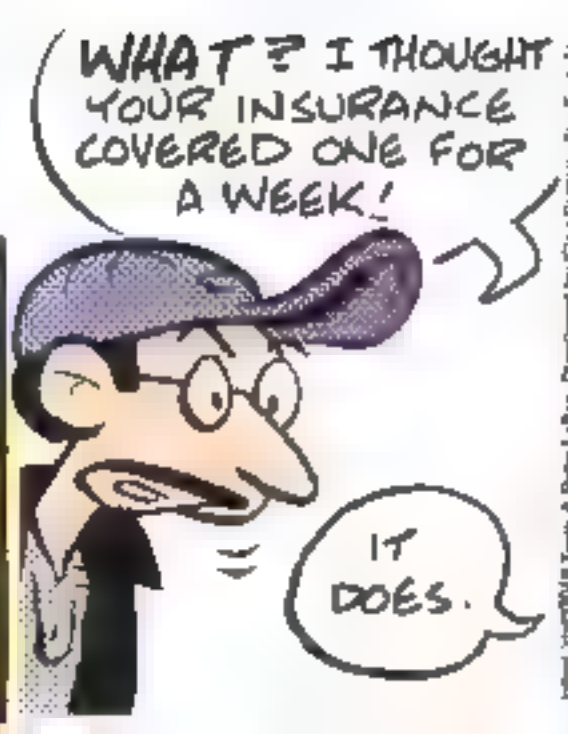
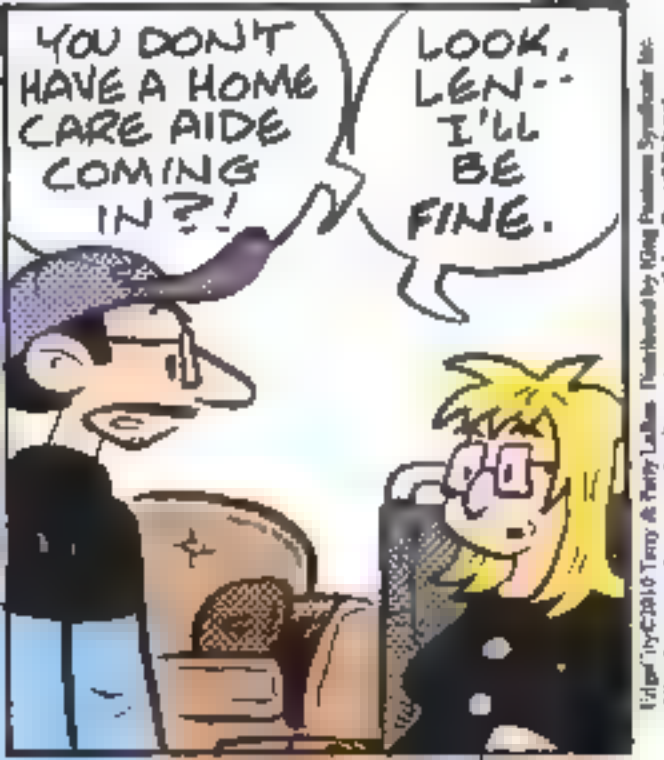


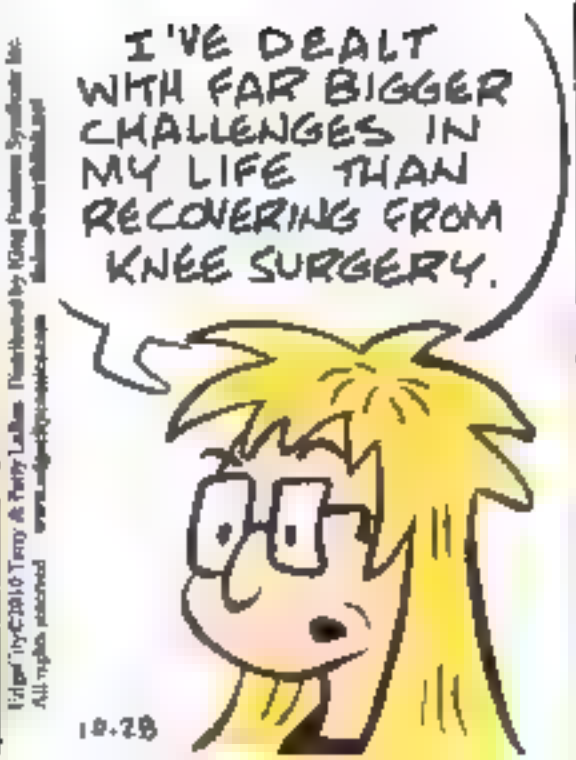

WELL, KNEE SURGERY'S OVER, MOM. YOU'RE FINALLY BACK FROM THE HOSPITAL.


THINK YOU'LL BE OK TILL THE HOME HEALTH AIDE ARRIVES?
I'M NOT HAVING A HOME HEALTH AIDE.
10.27


WHAT? I THOUGHT YOUR INSURANCE COVERED ONE FOR A WEEK!
IT DOES.

BUT I TOLD THEM I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE WHO WASN'T IN A UNION.
SMEK!





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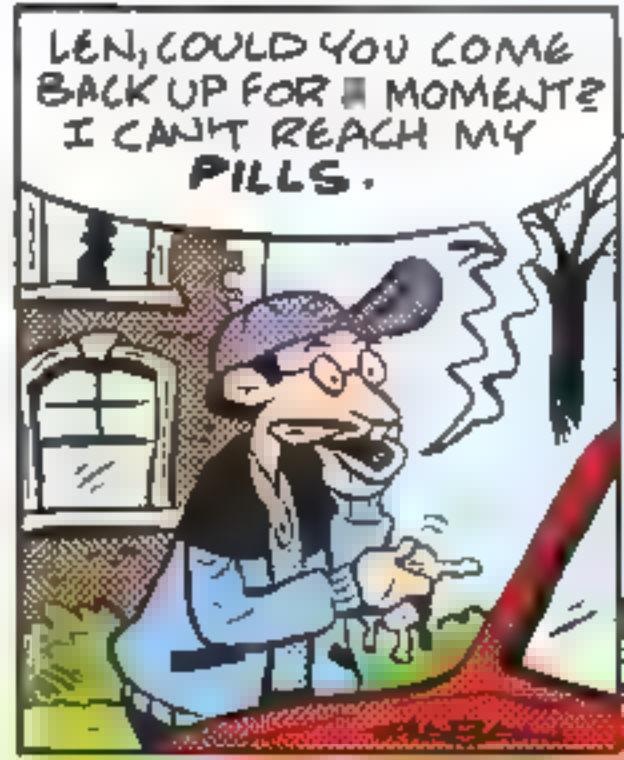
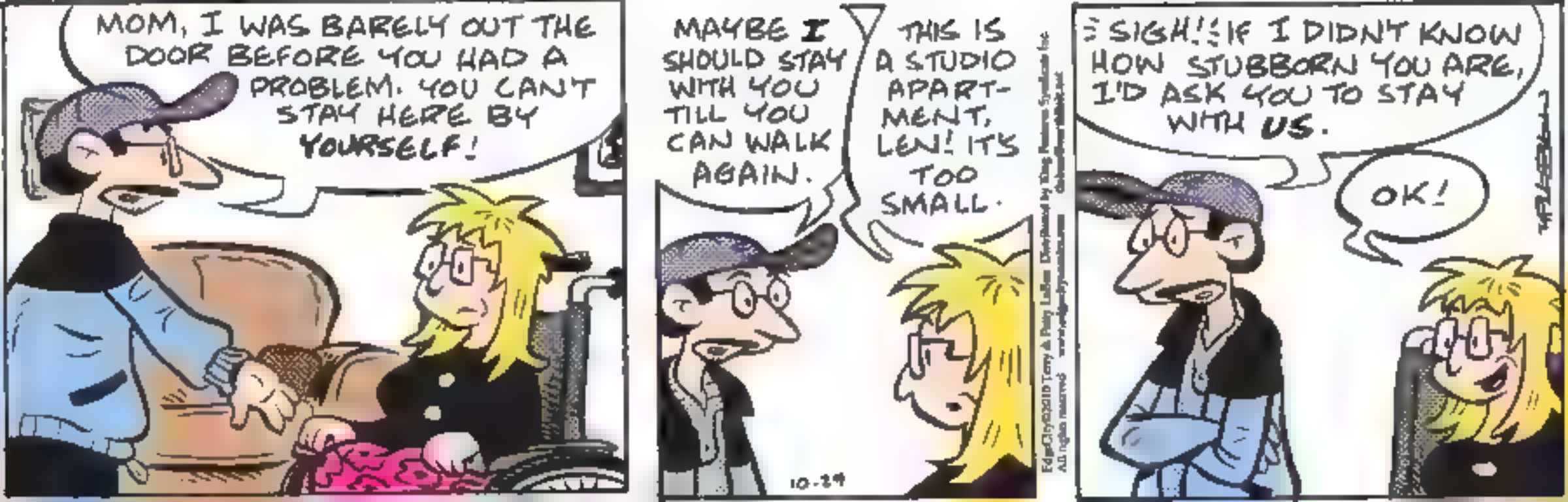
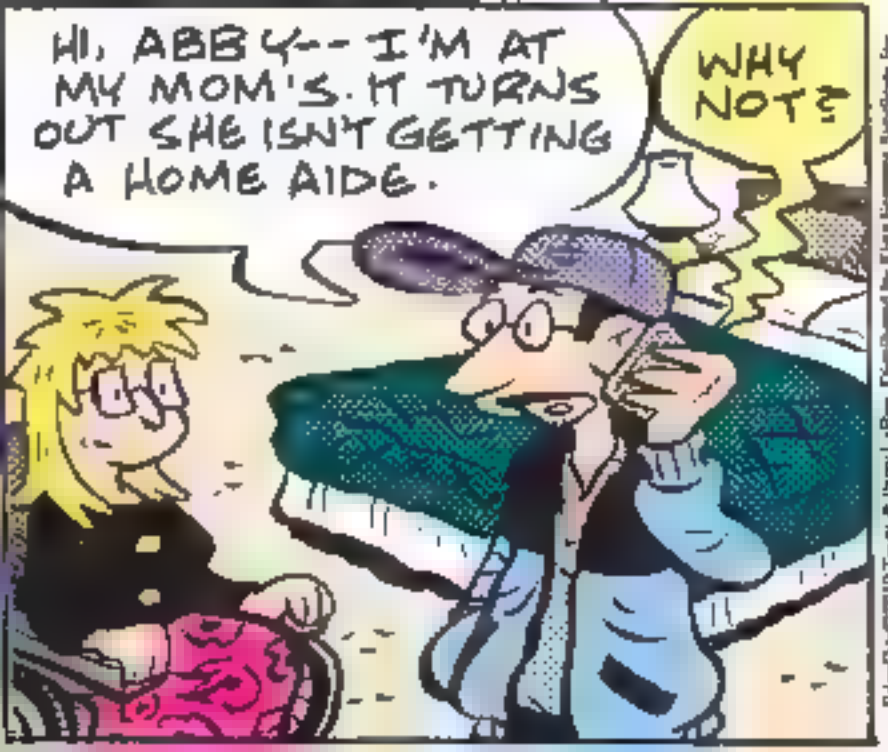
10-28




MOM, I WAS BARELY OUT THE DOOR BEFORE YOU HAD A PROBLEM. YOU CAN'T STAY HERE BY YOURSELF!
MAYBE I SHOULD STAY WITH YOU TILL YOU CAN WALK AGAIN.
THIS IS A STUDIO APARTMENT, LEN! IT'S TOO SMALL.
10-29
SIGH! IF I DIDN'T KNOW HOW STUBBORN YOU ARE, I'D ASK YOU TO STAY WITH US.
OK!



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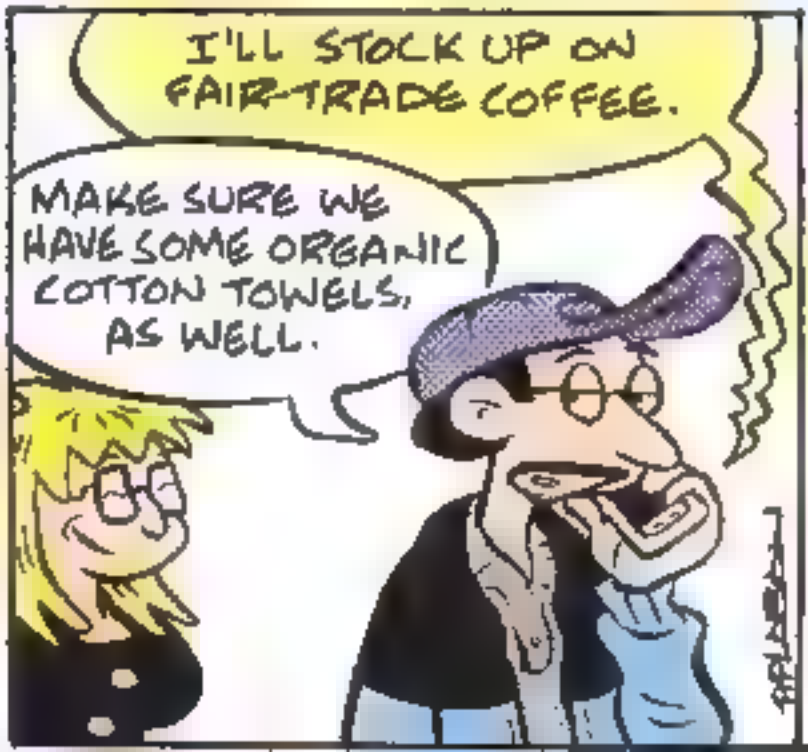
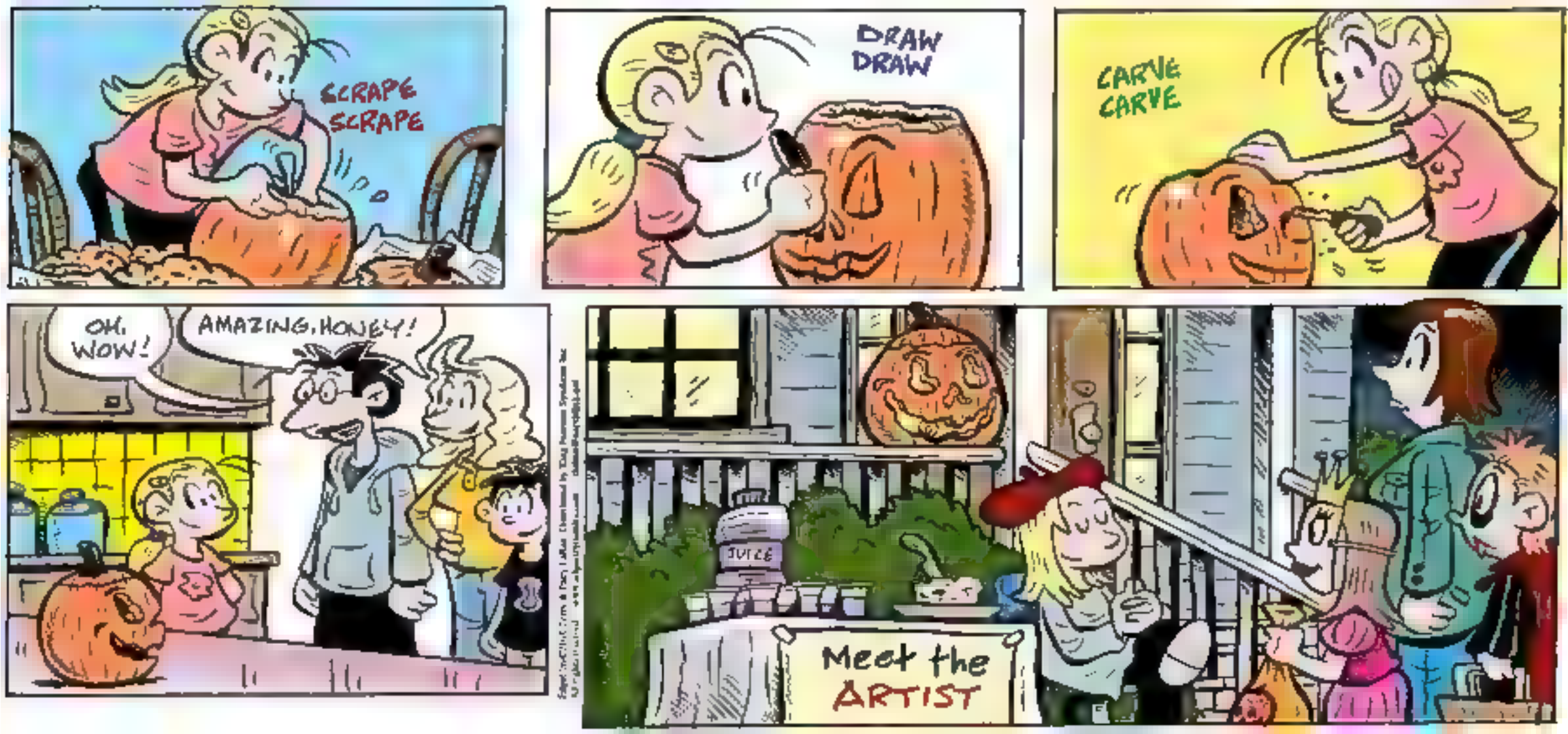
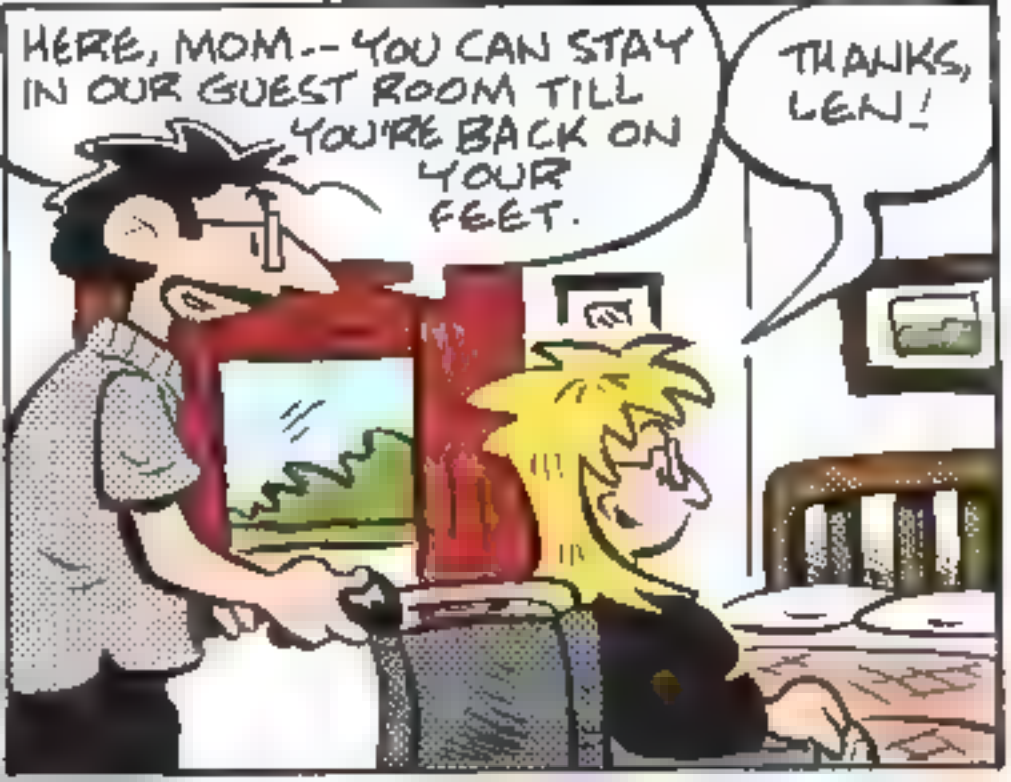



SCRAPE SCRAPE
DRAW DRAW
CARVE CARVE
OH, WOW!
AMAZING, HONEY!
JUICE
Meet the ARTIST



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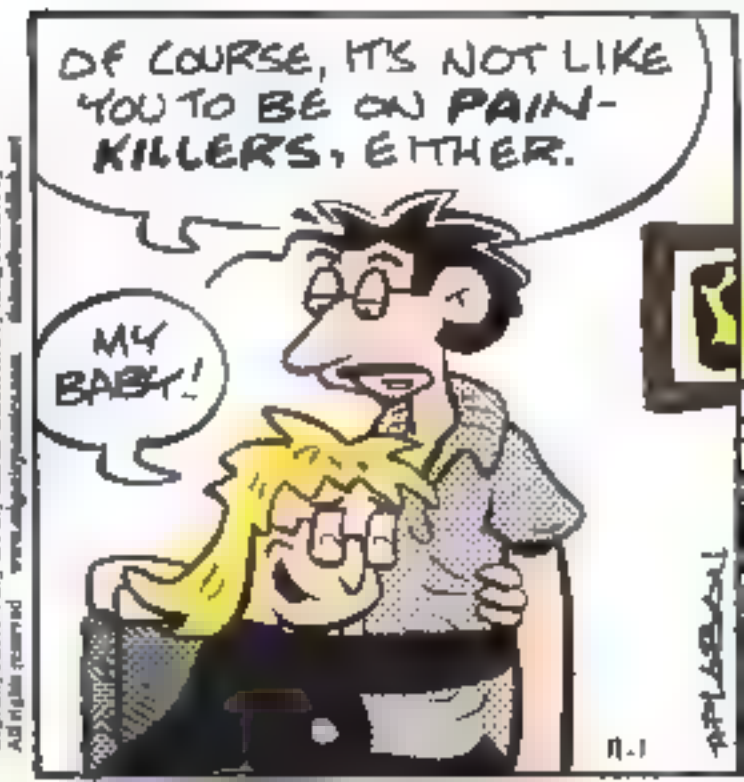
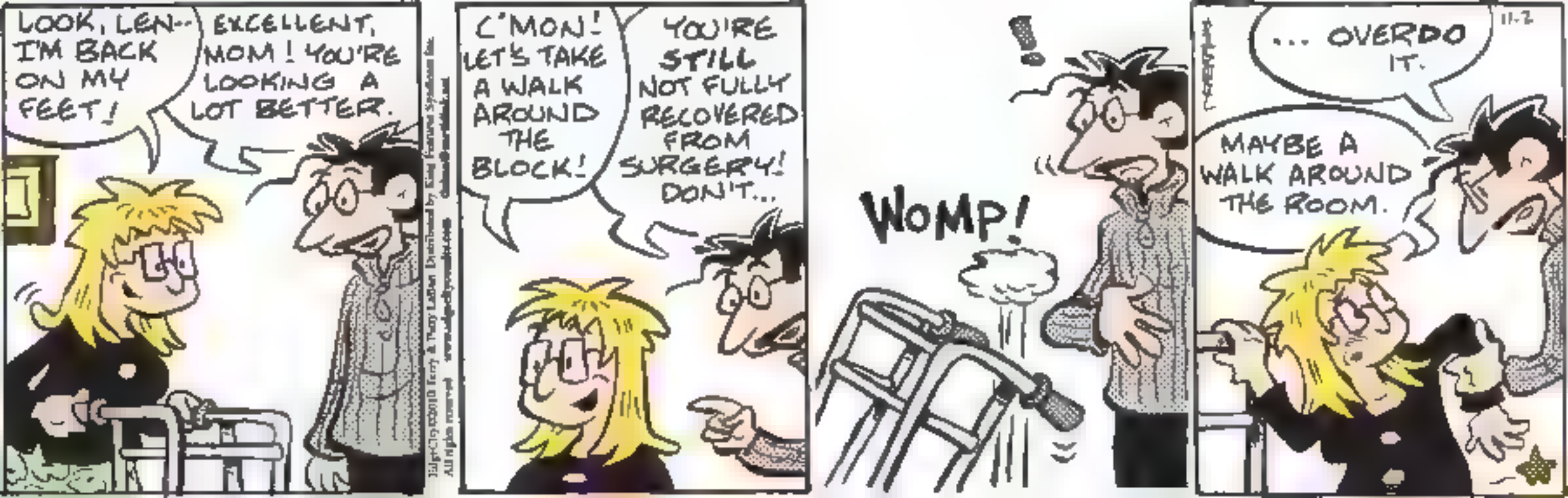
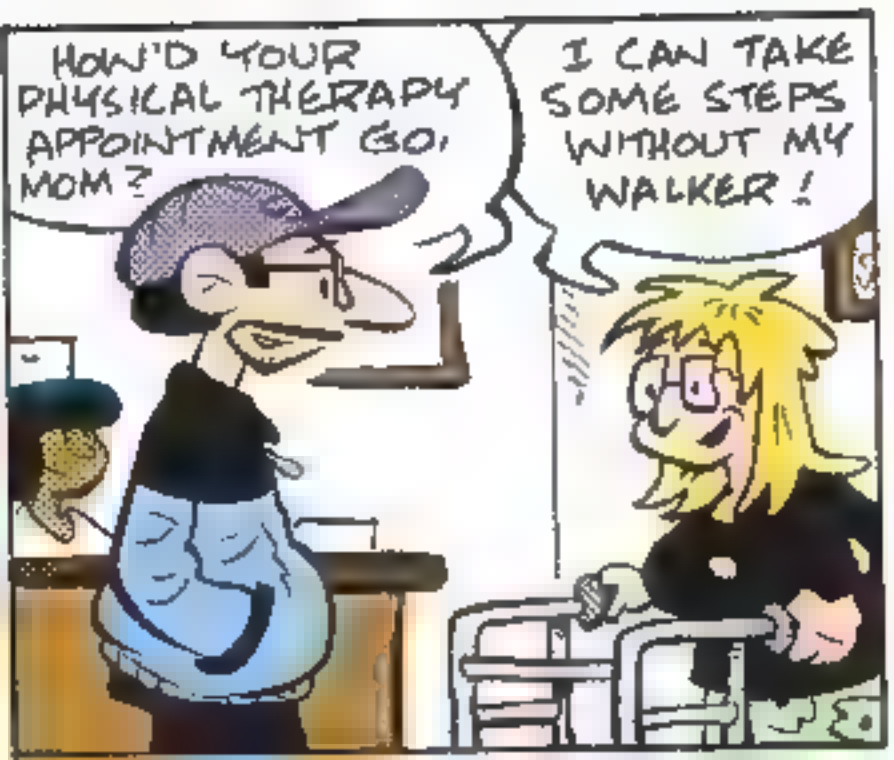
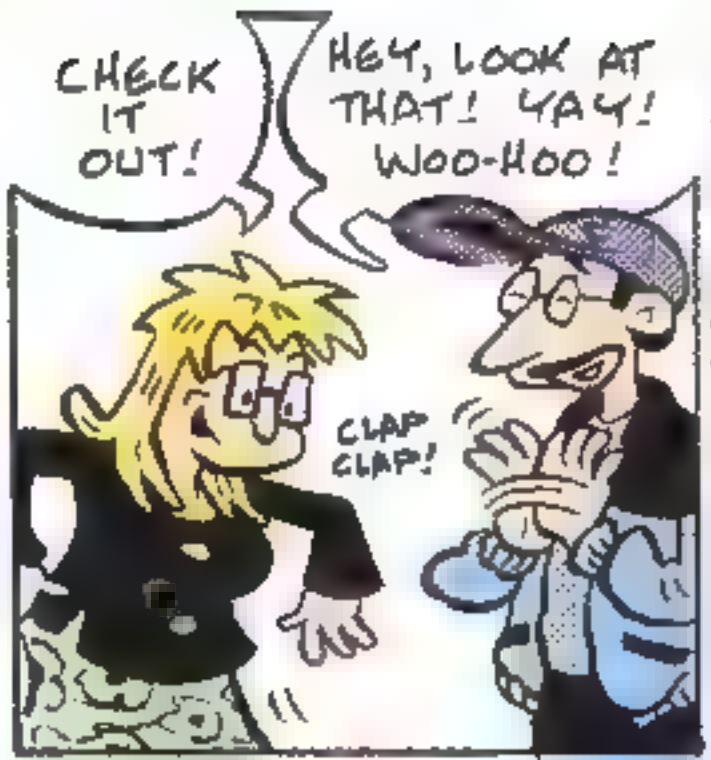
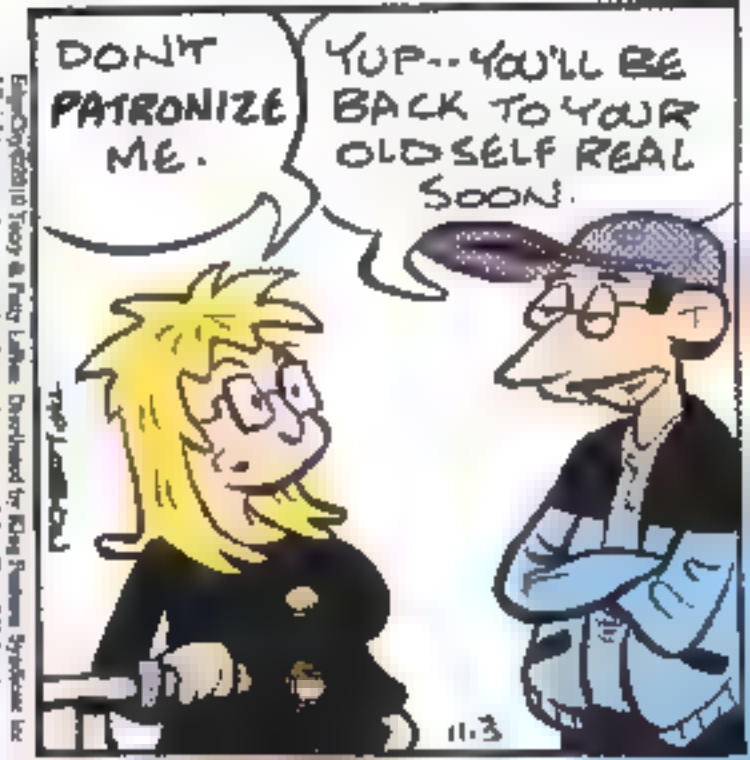
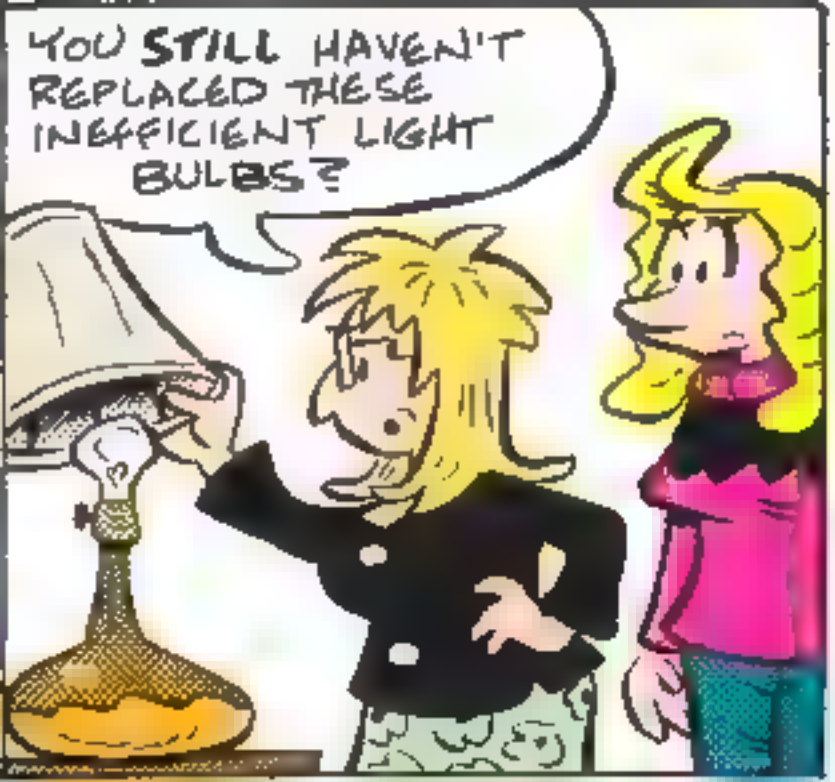



LOOK, LEN-- I'M BACK ON MY FEET!
EXCELLENT, MOM! YOU'RE LOOKING A LOT BETTER.
C'MON! LET'S TAKE A WALK AROUND THE BLOCK!
YOU'RE STILL NOT FULLY RECOVERED FROM SURGERY! DON'T...
WOMP!
... OVERDO IT.
MAYBE A WALK AROUND THE ROOM.
11-2


HOW'D YOUR PHYSICAL THERAPY APPOINTMENT GO, MOM?
I CAN TAKE SOME STEPS WITHOUT MY WALKER!


CHECK IT OUT!
HEY, LOOK AT THAT! YAY! WOO-HOO!
CLAP CLAP!


DON'T PATRONIZE ME.
YUP--YOU'LL BE BACK TO YOUR OLD SELF REAL SOON.
11-3



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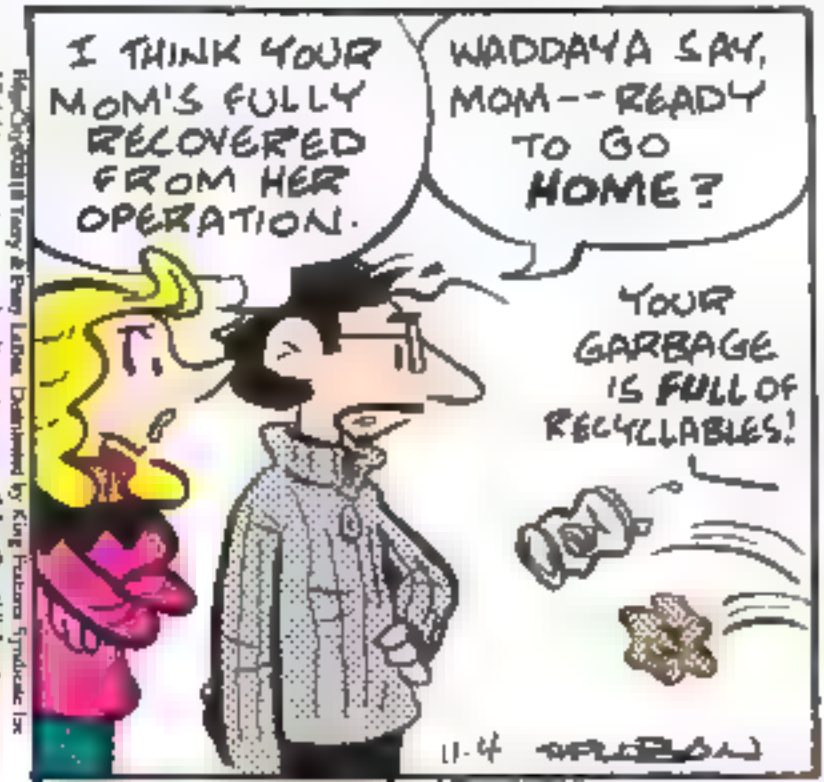

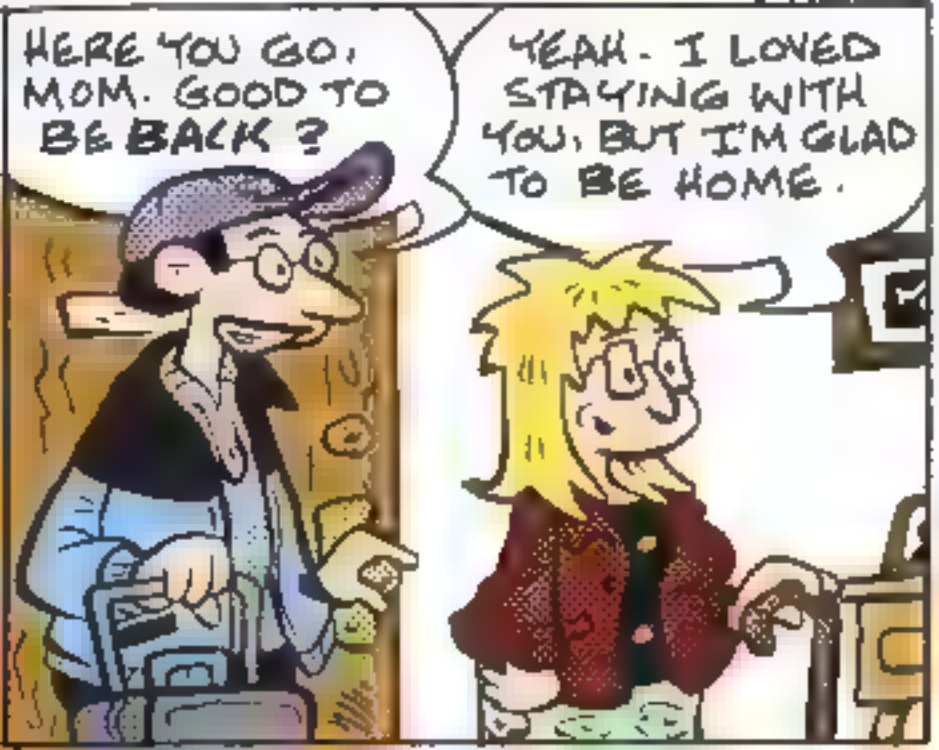

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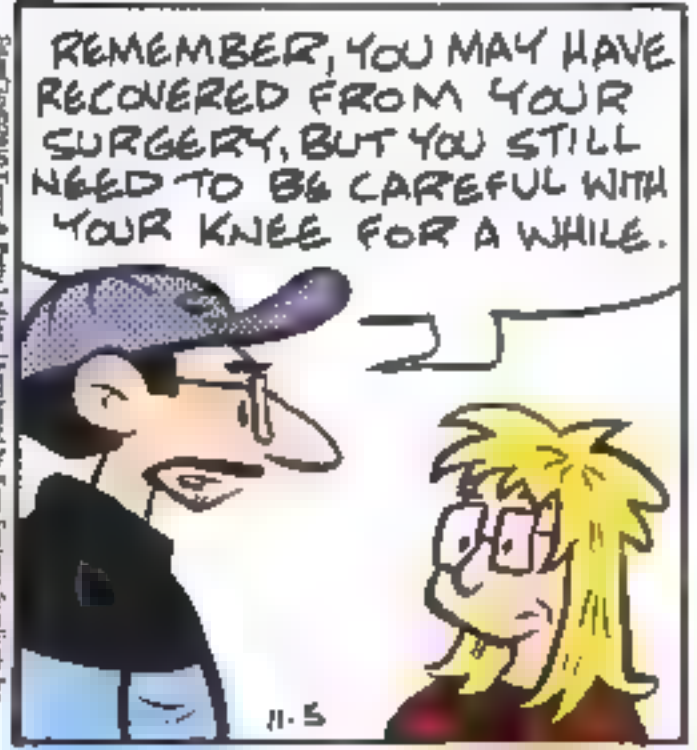

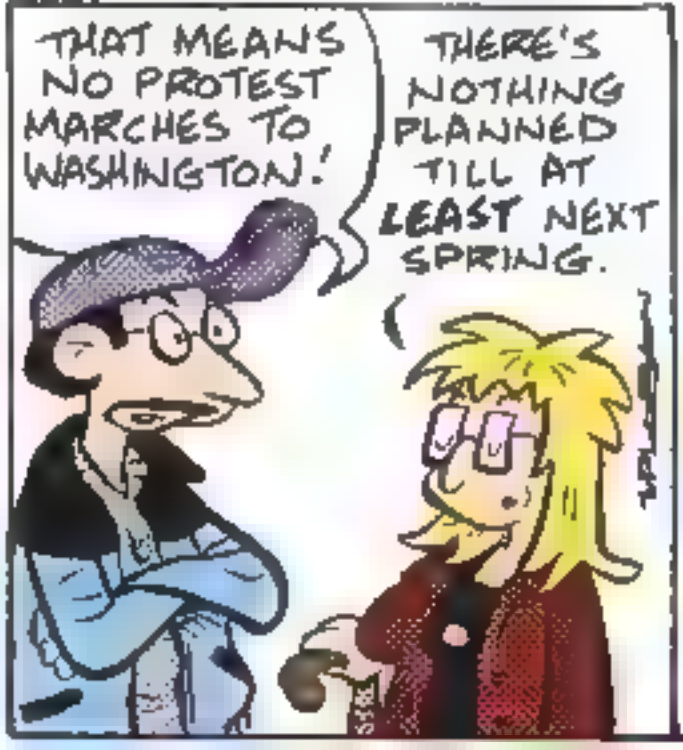

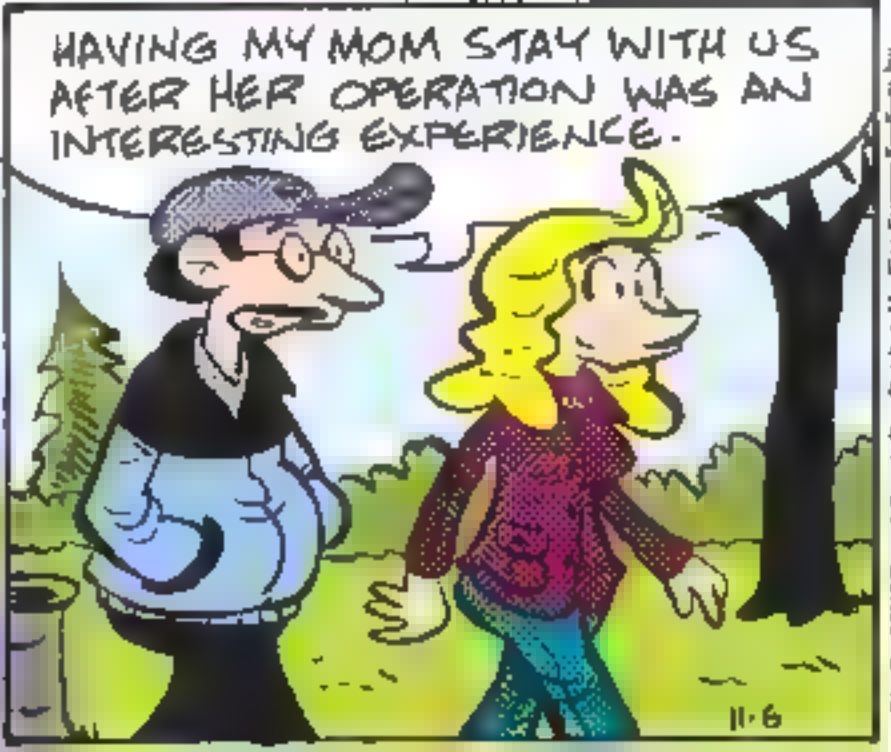

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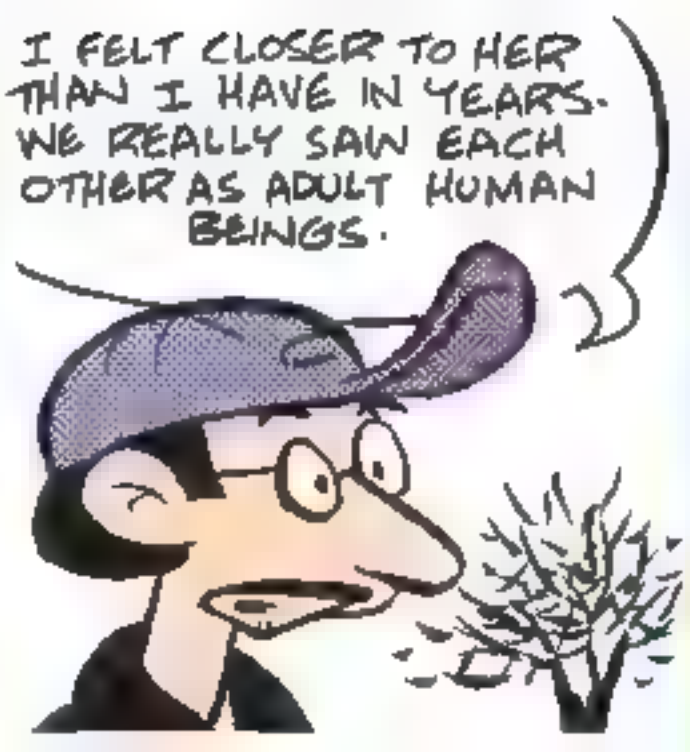
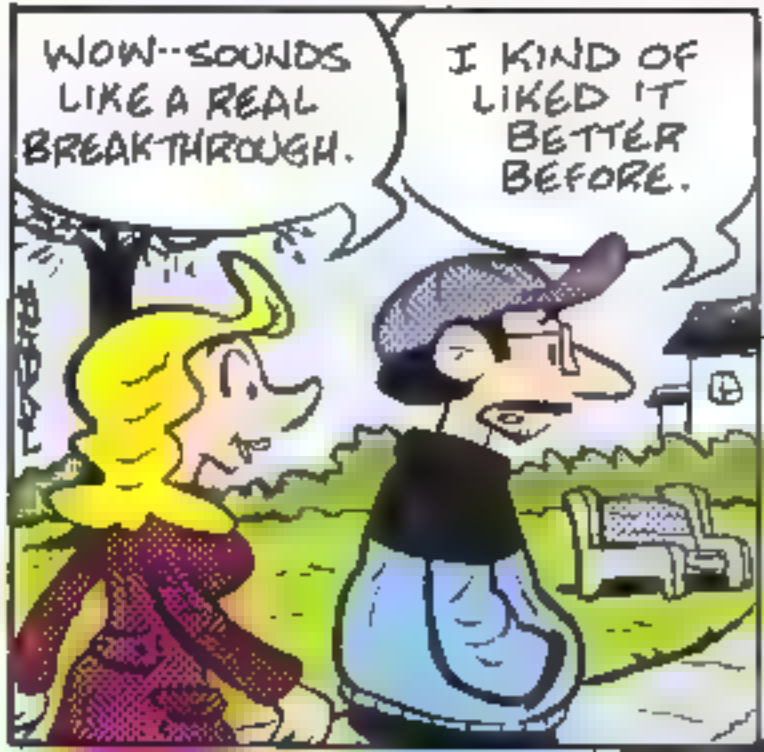


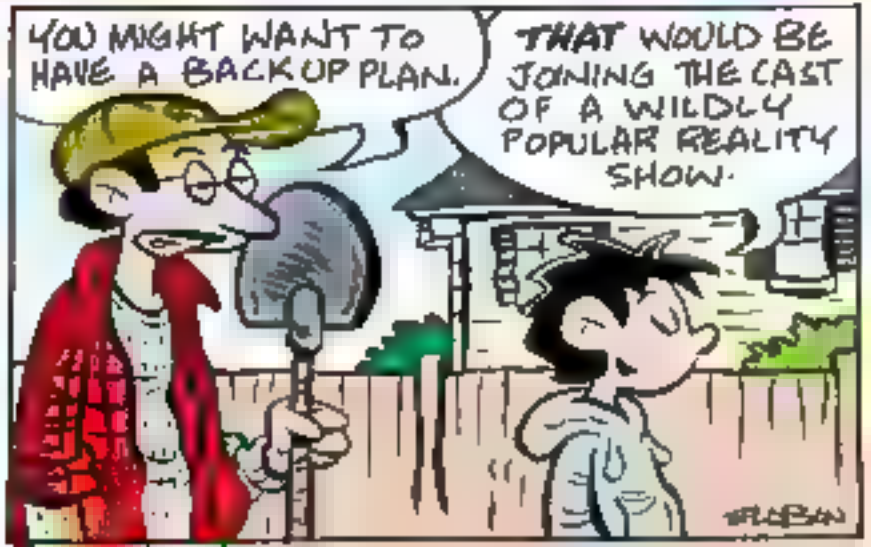


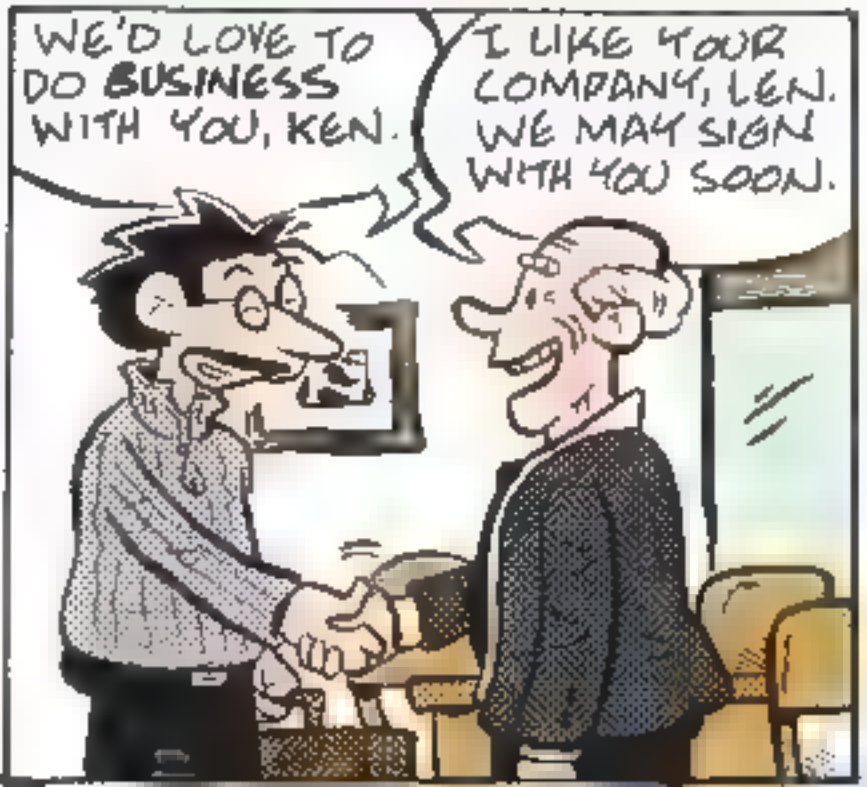
YOU EVER THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO BE WHEN YOU GET OLDER, COLIN?
SURE!
MULCH

I'M GOING TO BE RICH AND FAMOUS!
OH YEAH? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THAT?

EASY! I'LL JUST MAKE A VIDEO OF MYSELF SINGING A HIT SONG AND POST IT ON YOUTUBE.

IN A FEW DAYS IT'LL GO VIRAL, AND I'LL HAVE IT MADE!
11-7


YOU MIGHT WANT TO HAVE A BACKUP PLAN.
THAT WOULD BE JOINING THE CAST OF A WILDLY POPULAR REALITY SHOW.



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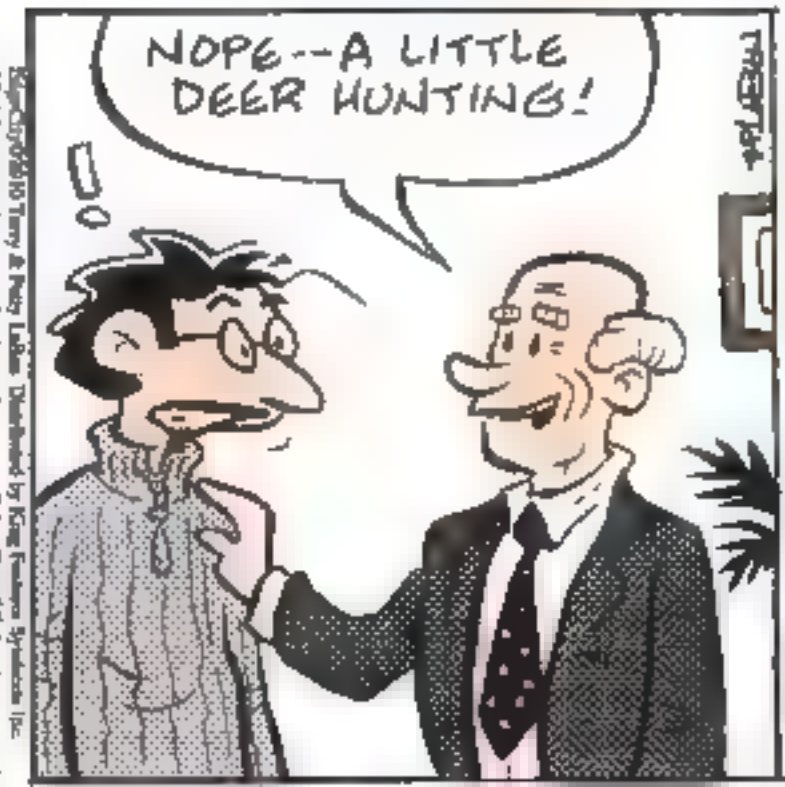

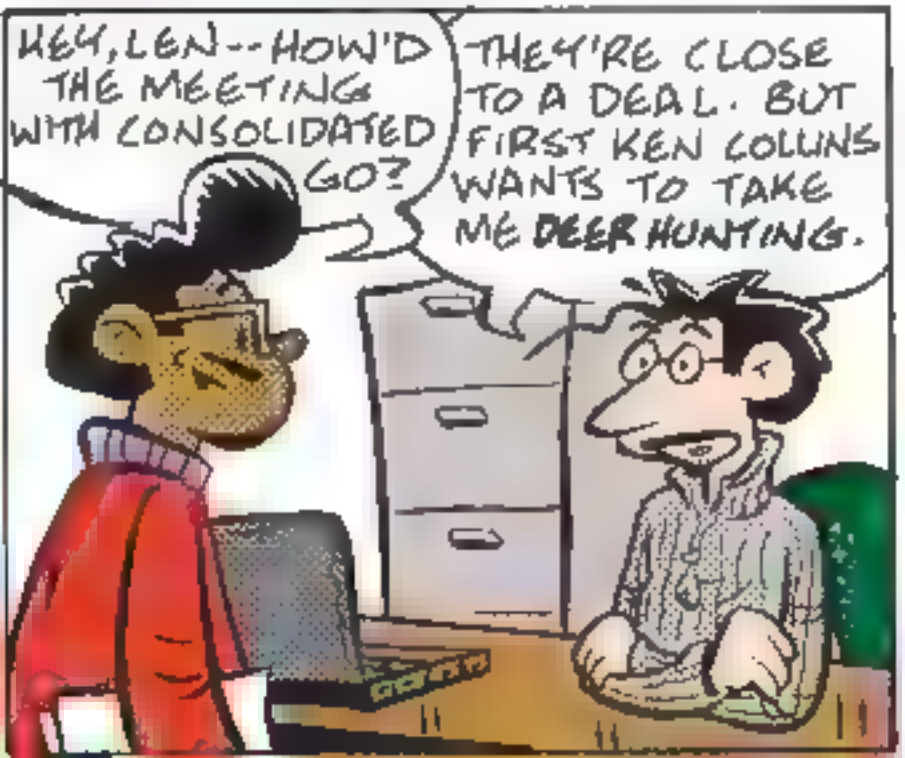

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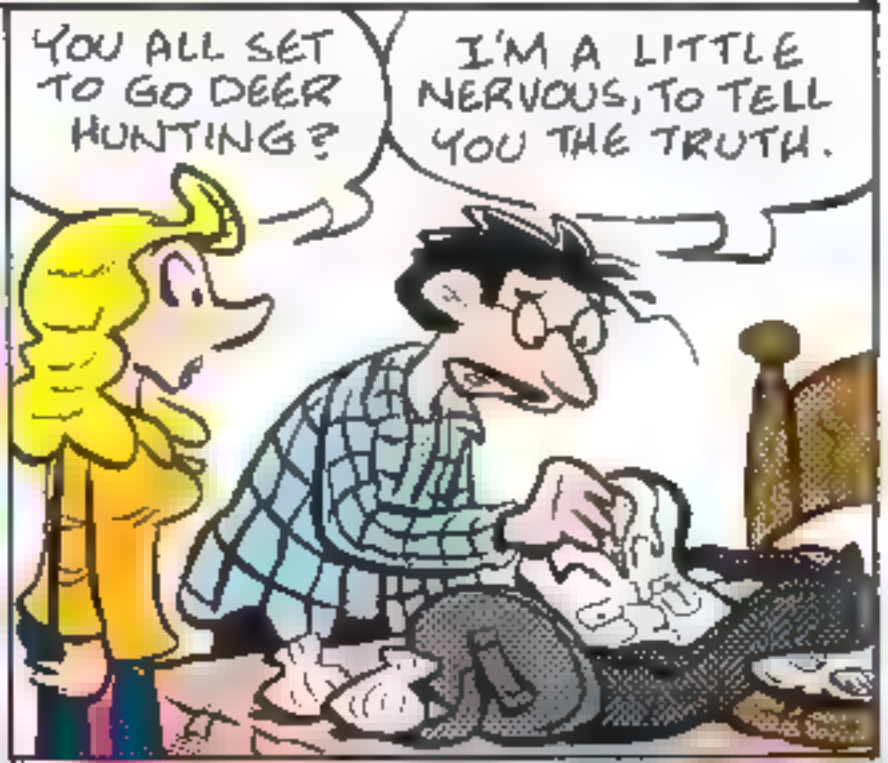
A POTENTIAL CLIENT INVITED ME TO GO DEER HUNTING.
OH, GOSH! WILL YOU?
I THINK I NEED TO FOR BUSINESS.
WOULD YOU ACTUALLY SHOOT A DEER?
HEY, I EAT MEAT, SO WHY BE A HYPOCRITE? I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH HUNTING.
11-10
AT LEAST FOR OTHER PEOPLE.
YOU WERE AWFULLY SAD AFTER YOU RAN OVER THAT WOODCHUCK.

YOU'RE GOING DEER HUNTING? THAT MAKES ME A LITTLE NERVOUS.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? PEOPLE DO IT ALL THE TIME.
HAVE YOU EVEN SHOT A GUN BEFORE?
NOT REALLY. BUT SO WHAT?
YOU JUST POINT AND PULL THE TRIGGER. WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?
AT LEAST WATCH A FEW TUTORIALS ON YOUTUBE!



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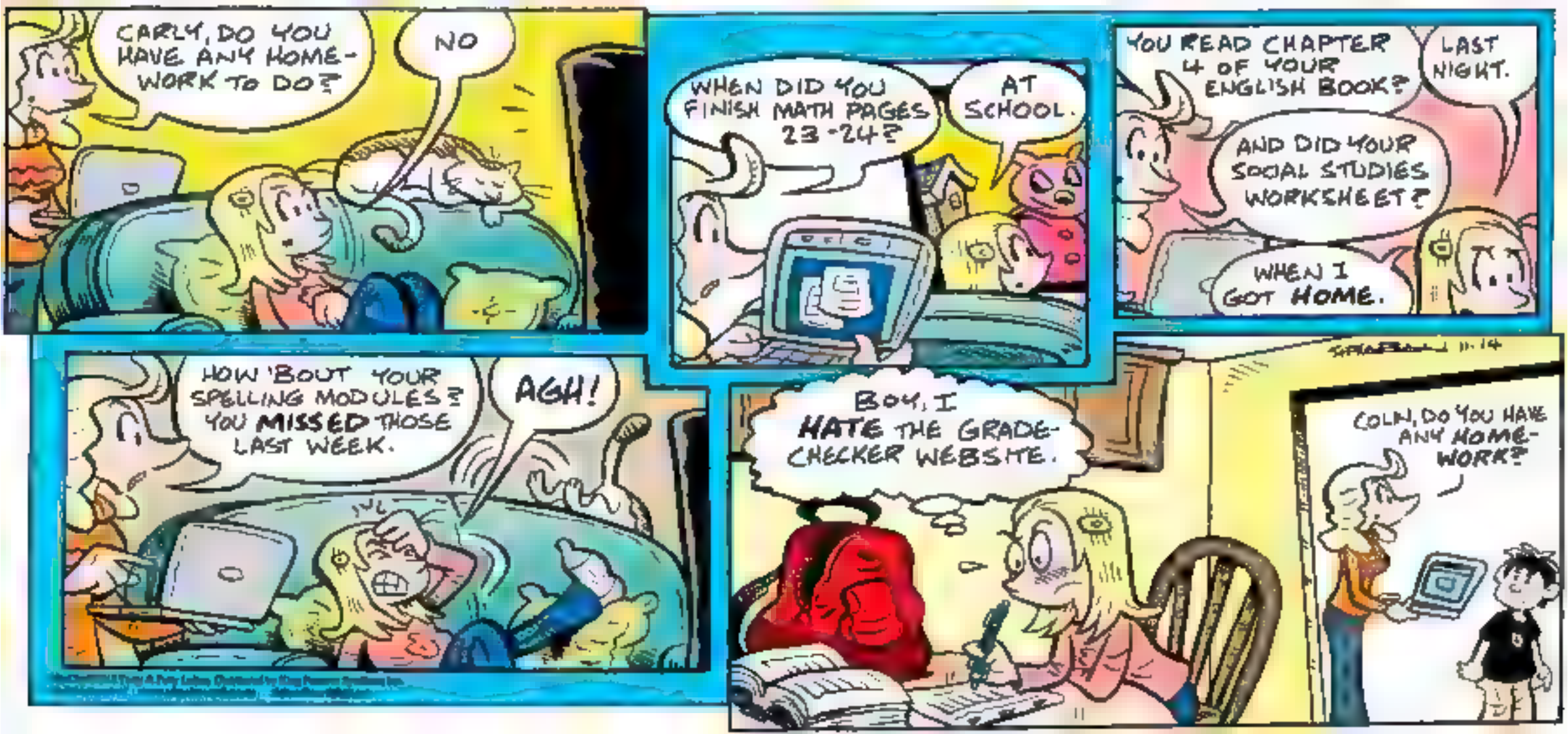
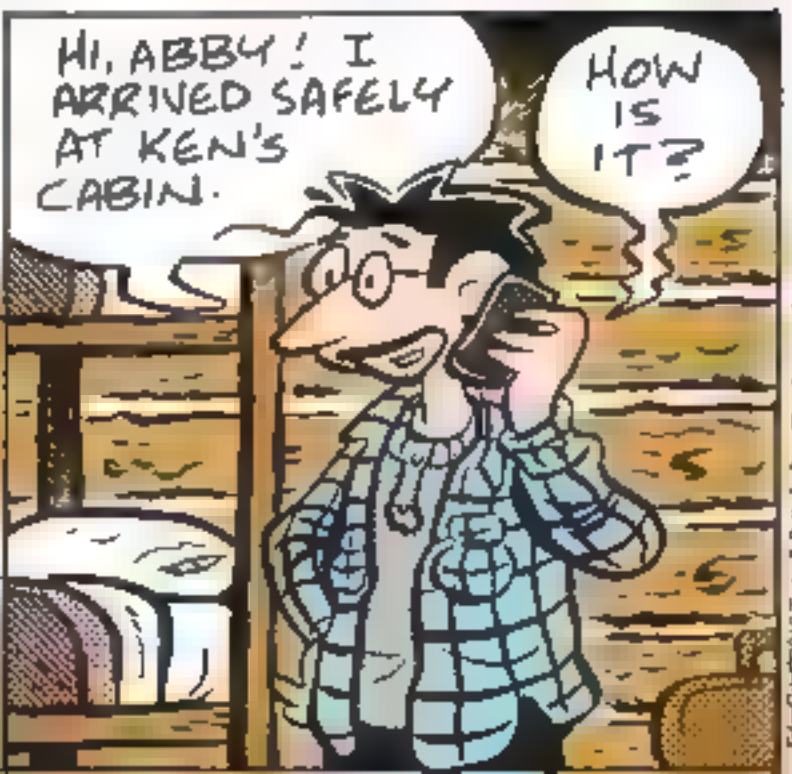
LEN, MEET LOU AND CARL.
HI!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
KEN TELLS ME YOU'VE NEVER BEEN HUNTING BEFORE.
NOPE. THIS IS MY FIRST TIME.
NO KIDDING! I FIRST WENT HUNTING WHEN I WAS 5.
I GUESS I'M WHAT YOU CALL A LATE ADOPTER.
YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT!


CARLY, DO YOU HAVE ANY HOME-WORK TO DO?
NO
WHEN DID YOU FINISH MATH PAGES 23-24?
AT SCHOOL.
YOU READ CHAPTER 4 OF YOUR ENGLISH BOOK?
LAST NIGHT.
AND DID YOUR SOCIAL STUDIES WORKSHEET?
WHEN I GOT HOME.
HOW 'BOUT YOUR SPELLING MODULES? YOU MISSED THOSE LAST WEEK.
AGH!
BOY, I HATE THE GRADE-CHECKER WEBSITE.
COLIN, DO YOU HAVE ANY HOME-WORK?



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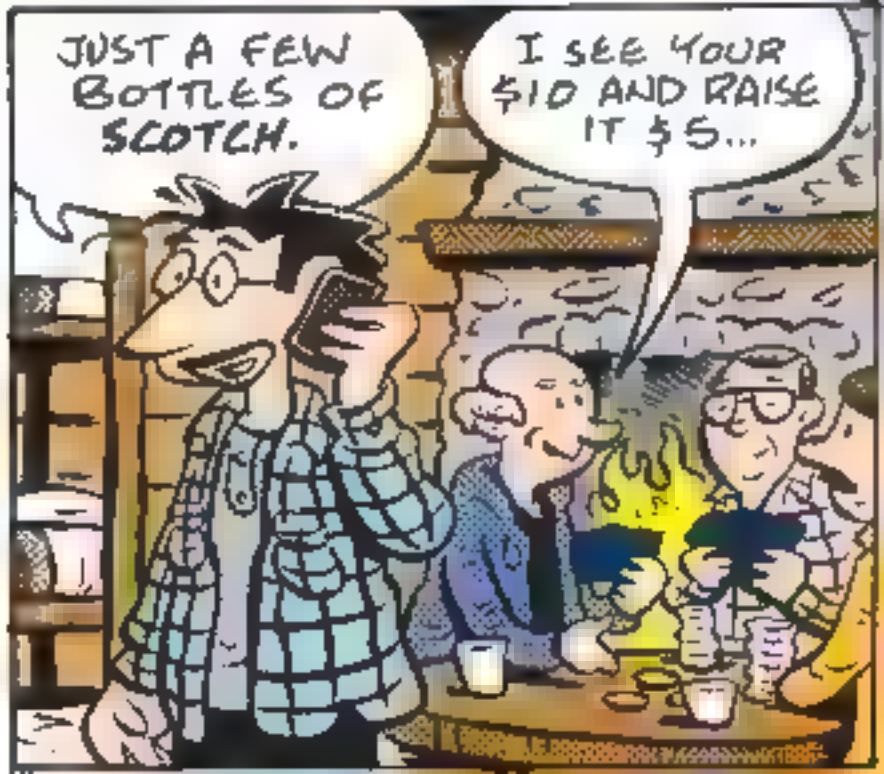
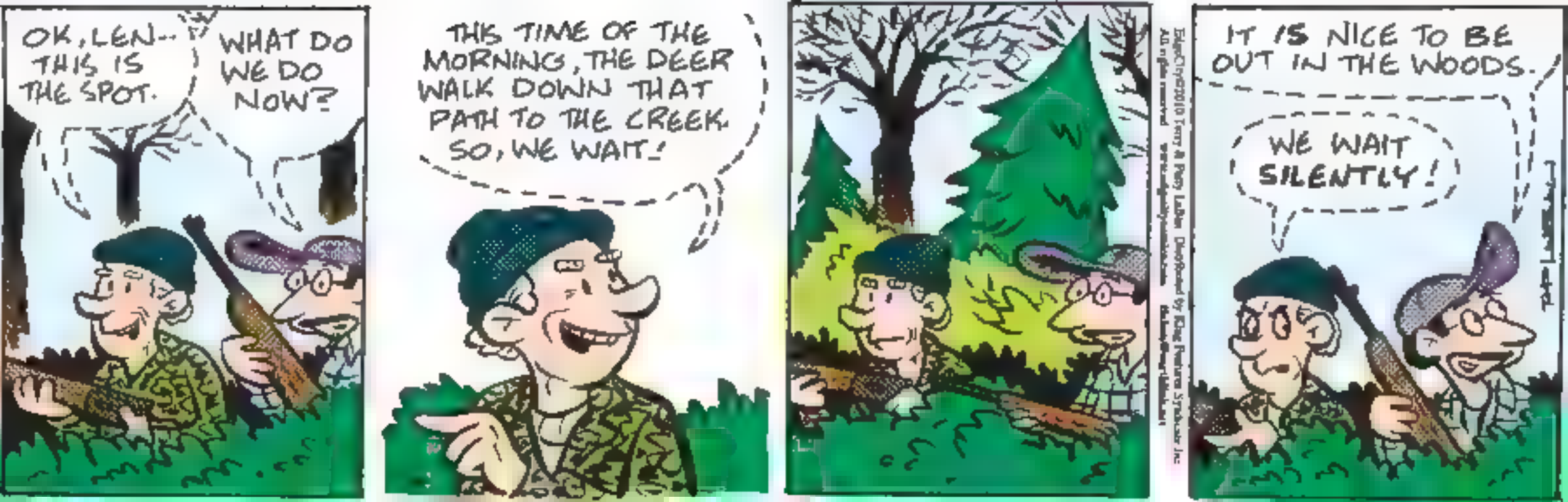
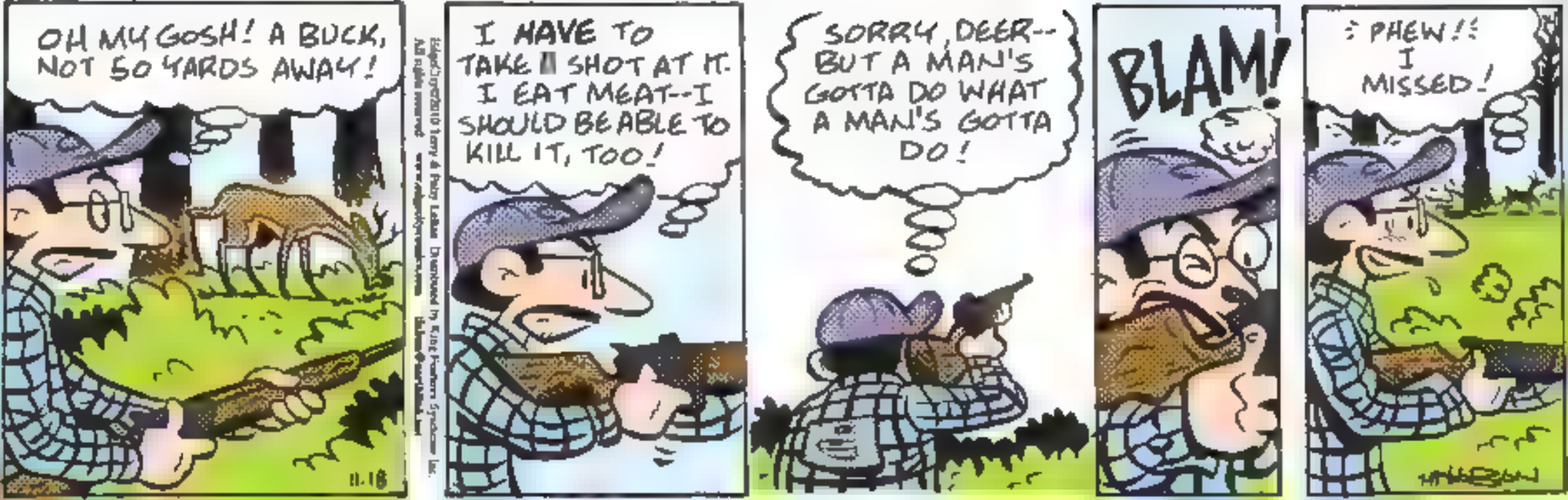
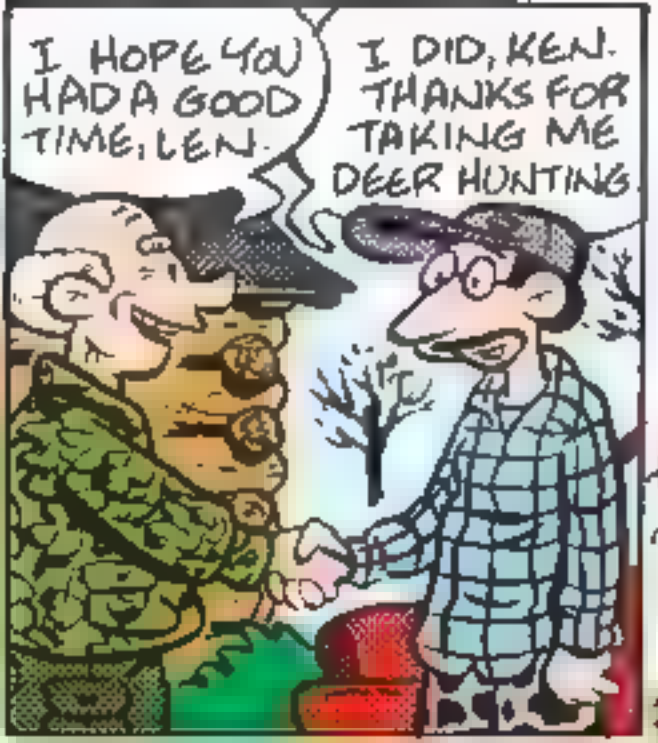
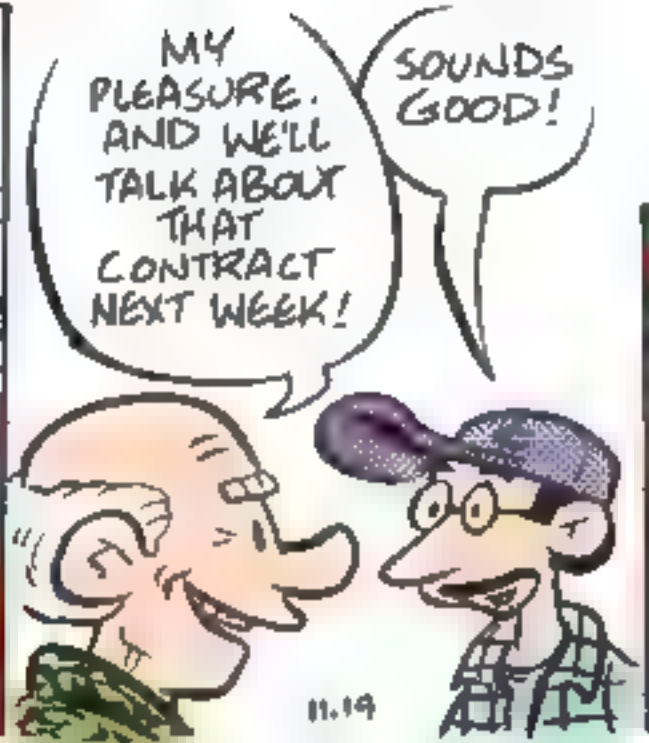



OK, LEN... THIS IS THE SPOT.
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
THIS TIME OF THE MORNING, THE DEER WALK DOWN THAT PATH TO THE CREEK. SO, WE WAIT!
IT IS NICE TO BE OUT IN THE WOODS.
WE WAIT SILENTLY!

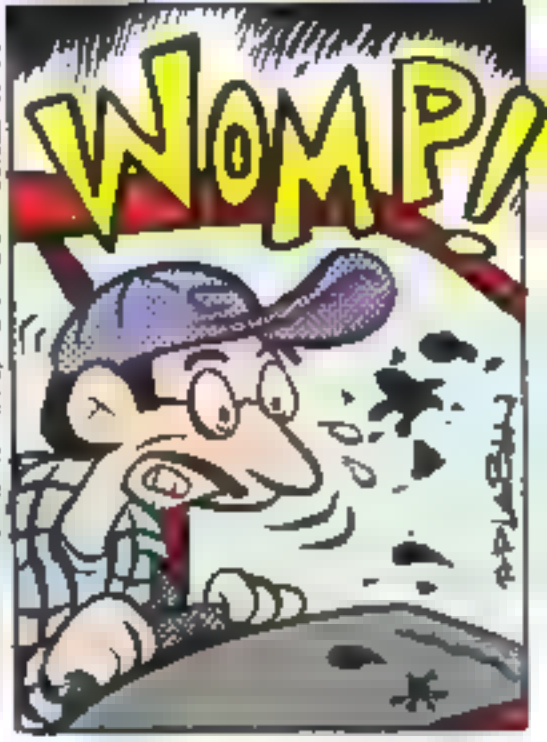
HEY, KEN-- I GOTTA GO TO THE BATH-ROOM.
OK-- BUT MAKE SURE YOU'RE AWAY FROM THE TRAIL!
AND KEEP QUIET!
GOT IT!
IT'S JUST AS WELL-- I'M NOT SURE I'D SHOOT A DEER IF I DID SEE ONE.
!

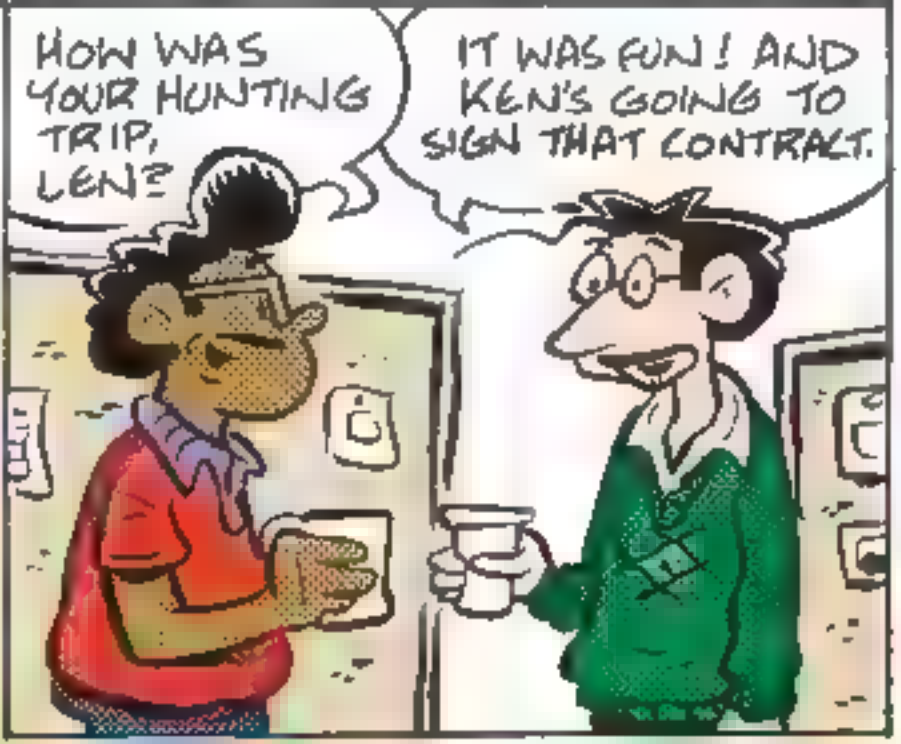

OH MY GOSH! A BUCK, NOT 50 YARDS AWAY!
I HAVE TO TAKE A SHOT AT IT. I EAT MEAT--I SHOULD BE ABLE TO KILL IT, TOO!
SORRY, DEER-- BUT A MAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A MAN'S GOTTA DO!
BLAM!
PHEW!! I MISSED!


I HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD TIME, LEN.
I DID, KEN. THANKS FOR TAKING ME DEER HUNTING.


MY PLEASURE. AND WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT CONTRACT NEXT WEEK!
SOUNDS GOOD!
11.19

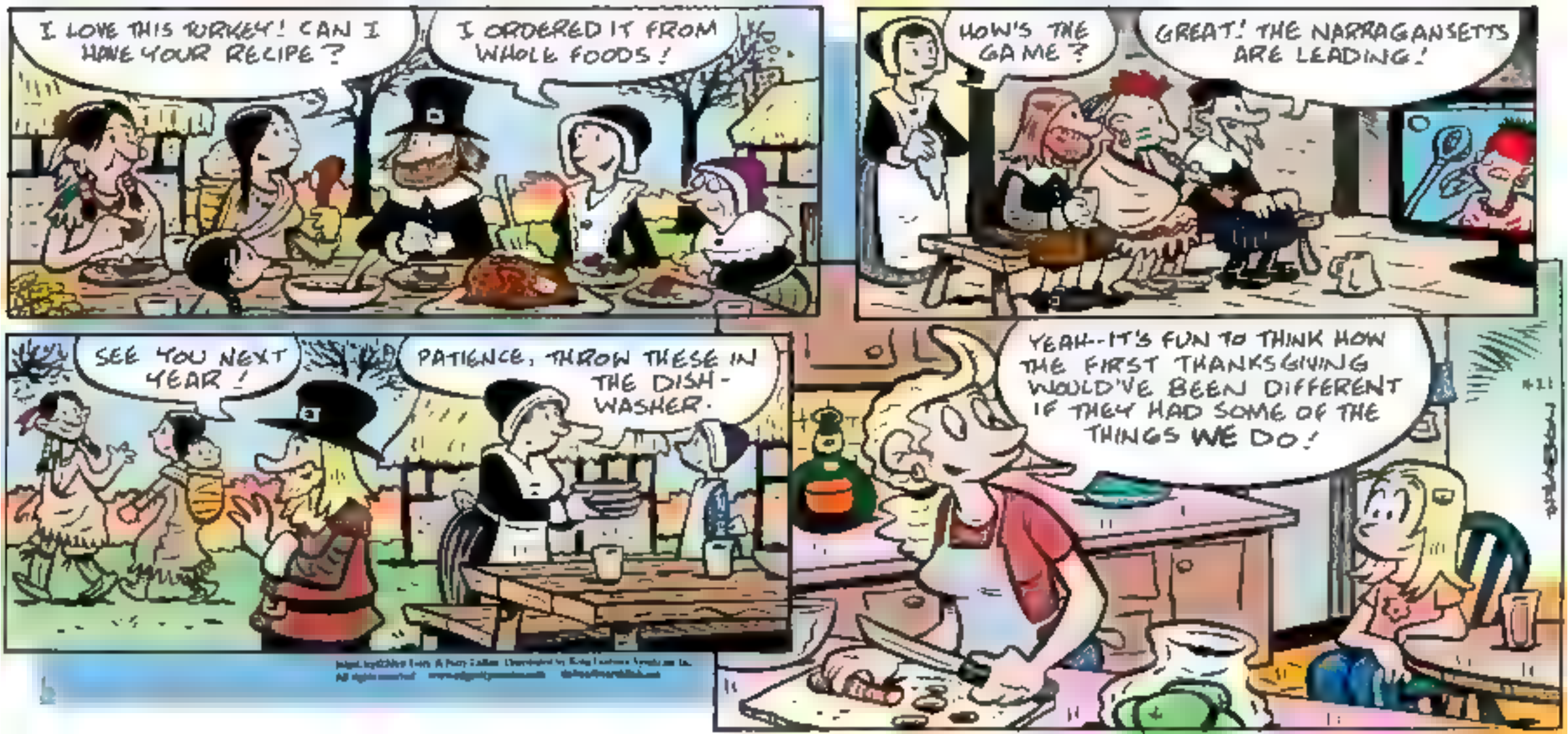
HEH! THAT WENT REALLY WELL. AND I CAN'T SAY I'M SAD THAT I DIDN'T ACTUALLY KILL A DEER!

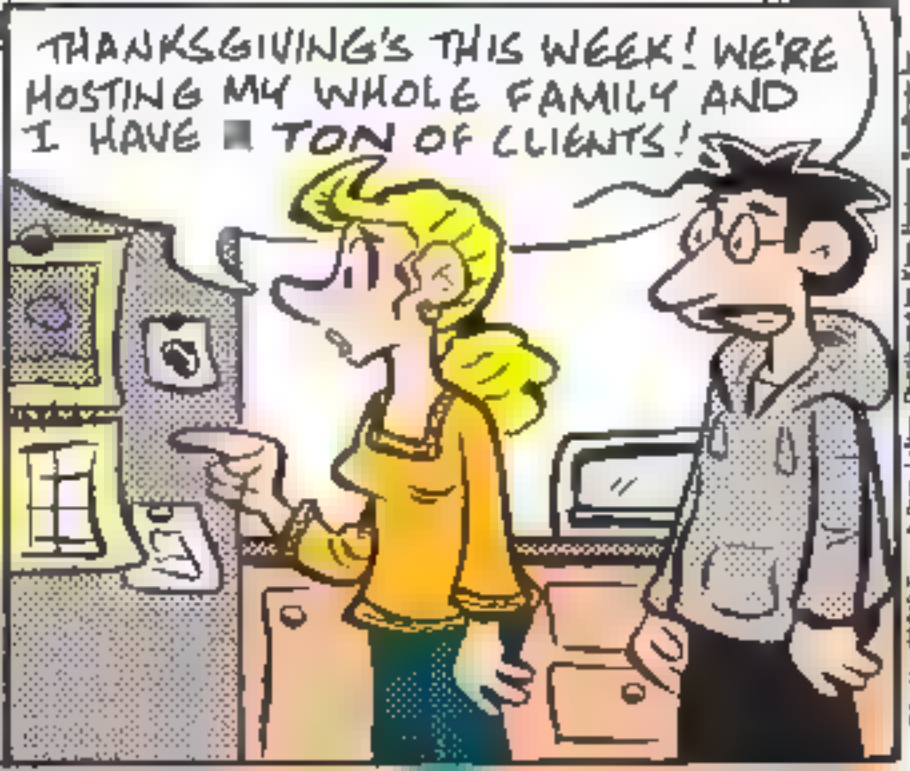

WOMP!


HOW WAS YOUR HUNTING TRIP, LEN?
IT WAS FUN! AND KEN'S GOING TO SIGN THAT CONTRACT.

SO, DID YOU ACTUALLY GET A DEER?
OH, YEAH! A BIG ONE!
11-20

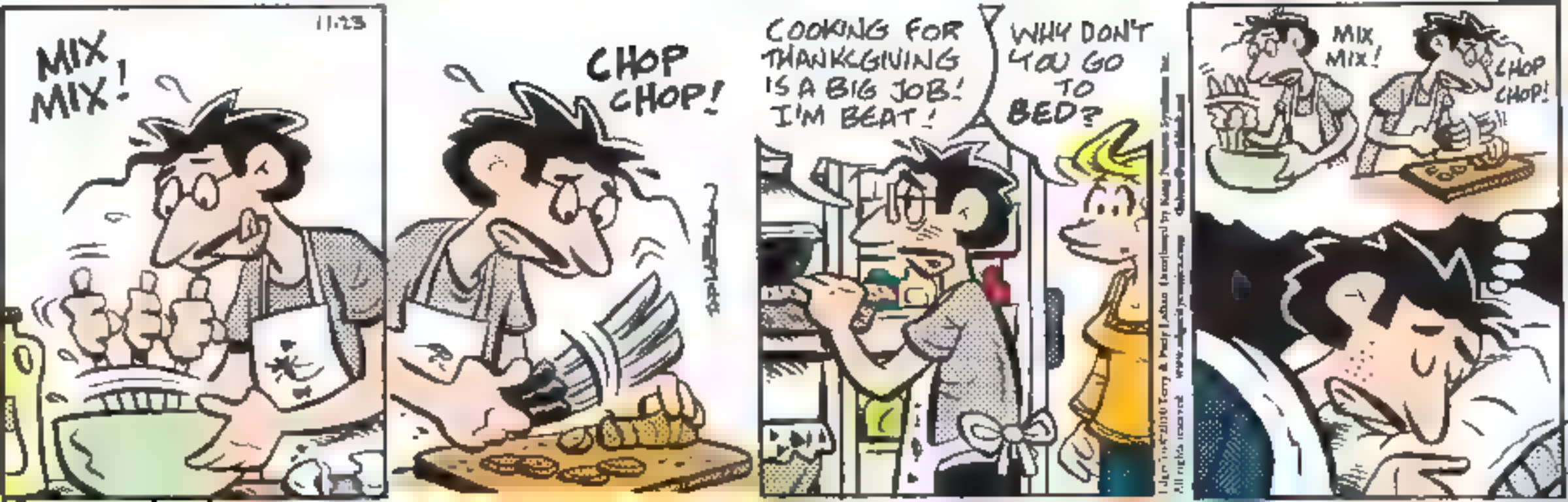
YOUR FIRST TIME OUT? THAT'S PRETTY LUCKY!
NOT REALLY--I HIT IT WITH MY CAR ON THE WAY HOME.

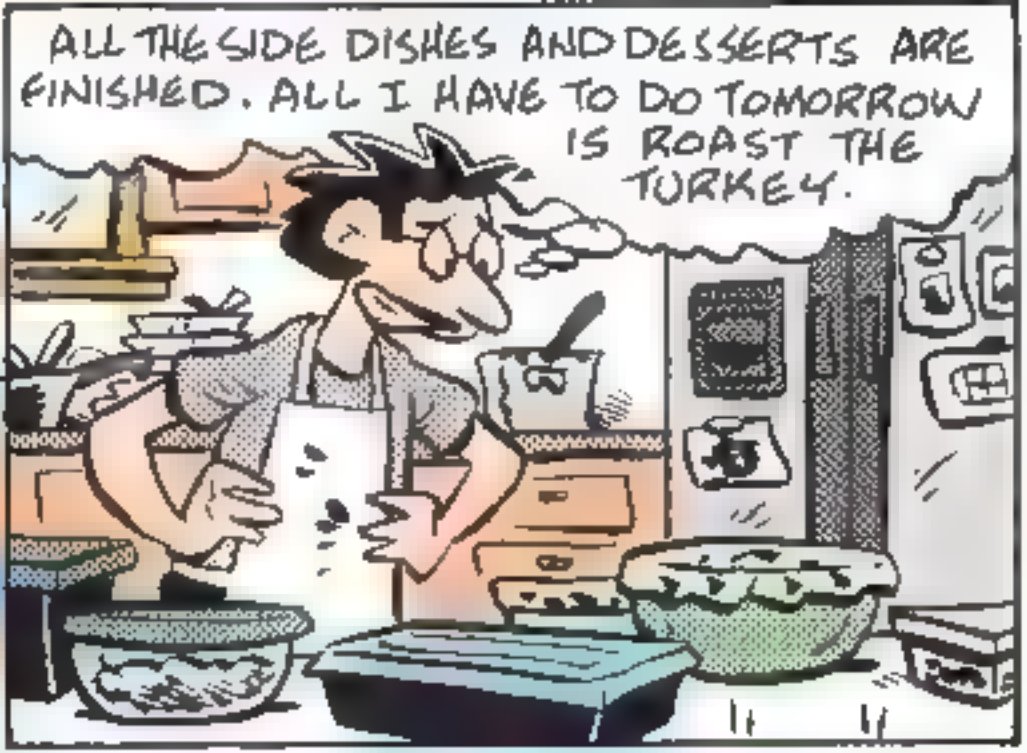

I LOVE THIS TURKEY! CAN I HAVE YOUR RECIPE?
I ORDERED IT FROM WHOLE FOODS!
HOW'S THE GAME?
GREAT! THE NARRAGANSETTS ARE LEADING!
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!
PATIENCE, THROW THESE IN THE DISH-WASHER.
YEAH--IT'S FUN TO THINK HOW THE FIRST THANKSGIVING WOULD'VE BEEN DIFFERENT IF THEY HAD SOME OF THE THINGS WE DO!


THANKSGIVING'S THIS WEEK! WE'RE HOSTING MY WHOLE FAMILY AND I HAVE A TON OF CLIENTS!

I'M TOTALLY OVER-WHELMED!
I'LL HELP, ABBY--JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED ME TO DO.

...AND AFTER YOU SHOP, YOU CAN START ON THE SIDE DISHES...
!
LOOK BOOK
11.22


11-23
MIX MIX!
CHOP CHOP!
COOKING FOR THANKSGIVING IS A BIG JOB! I'M BEAT!
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO BED?
MIX MIX!
CHOP CHOP!



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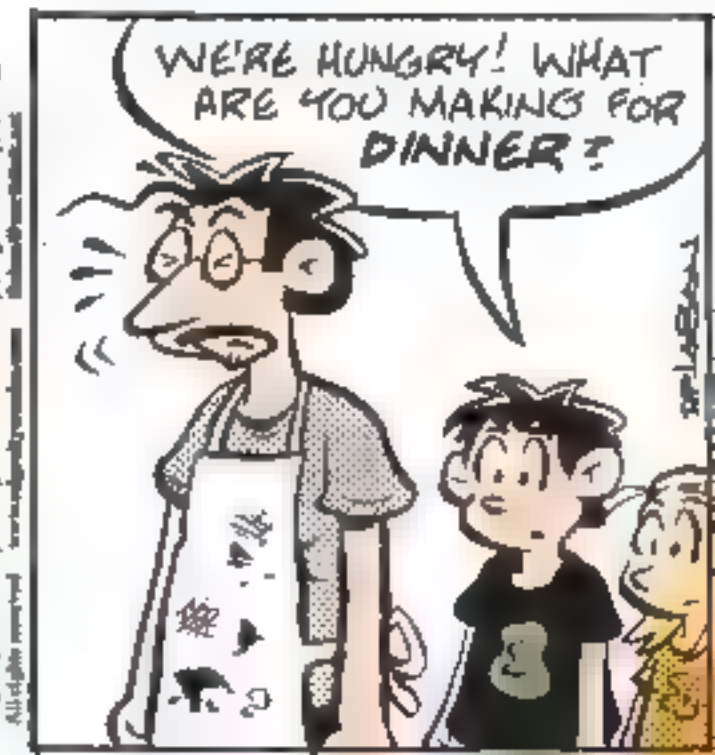
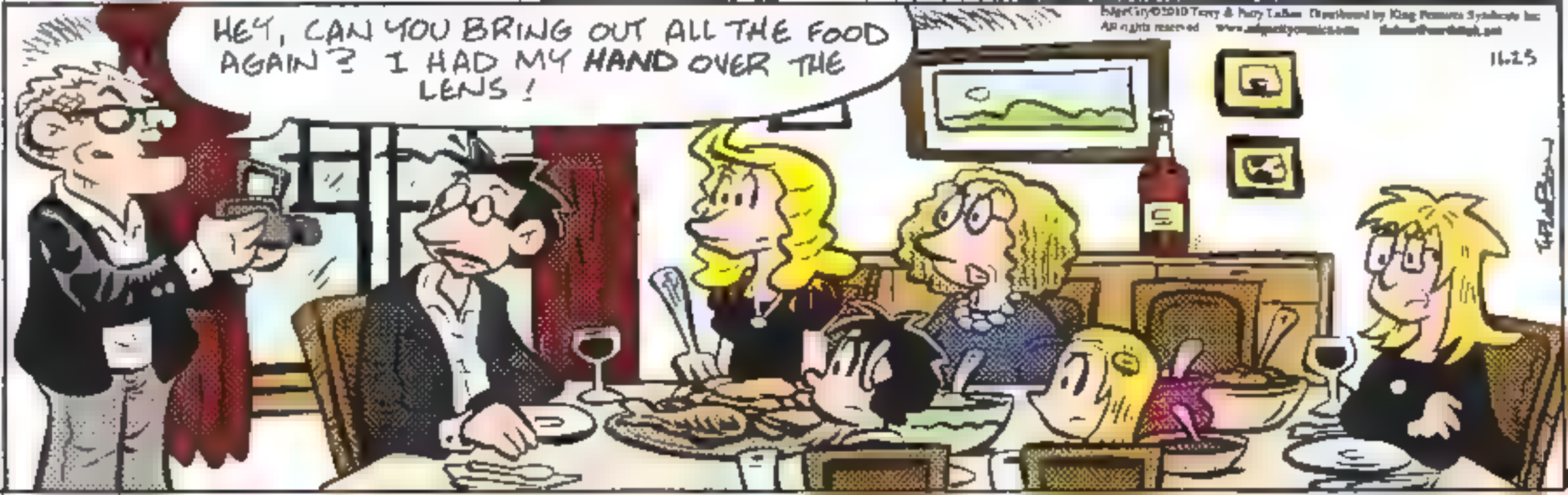
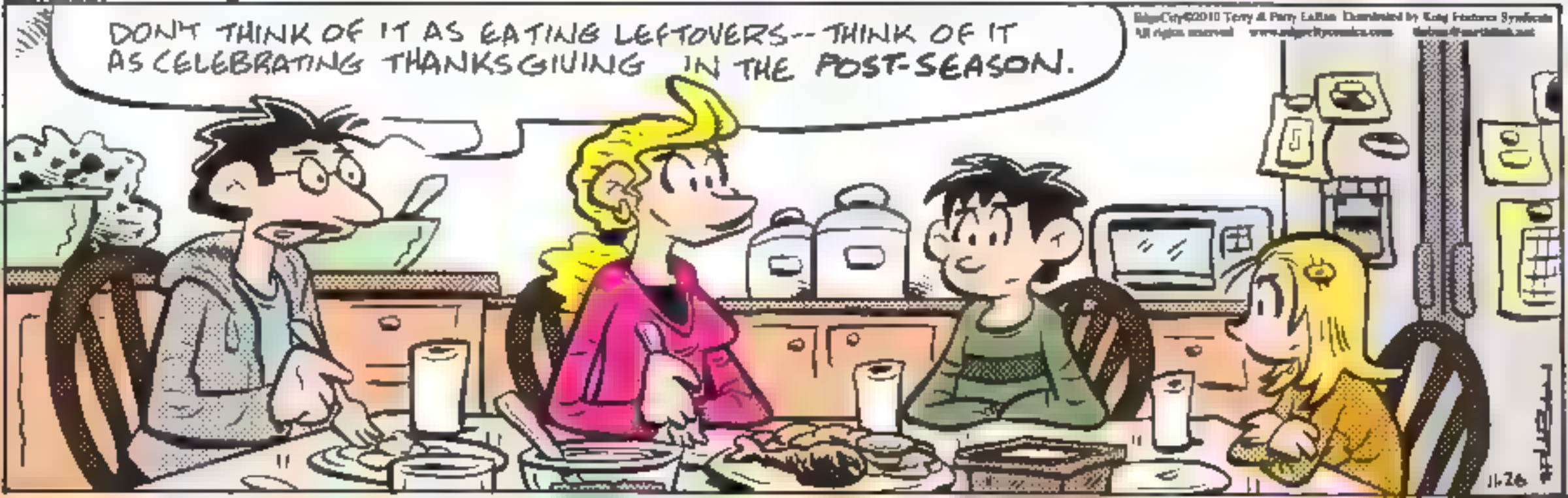
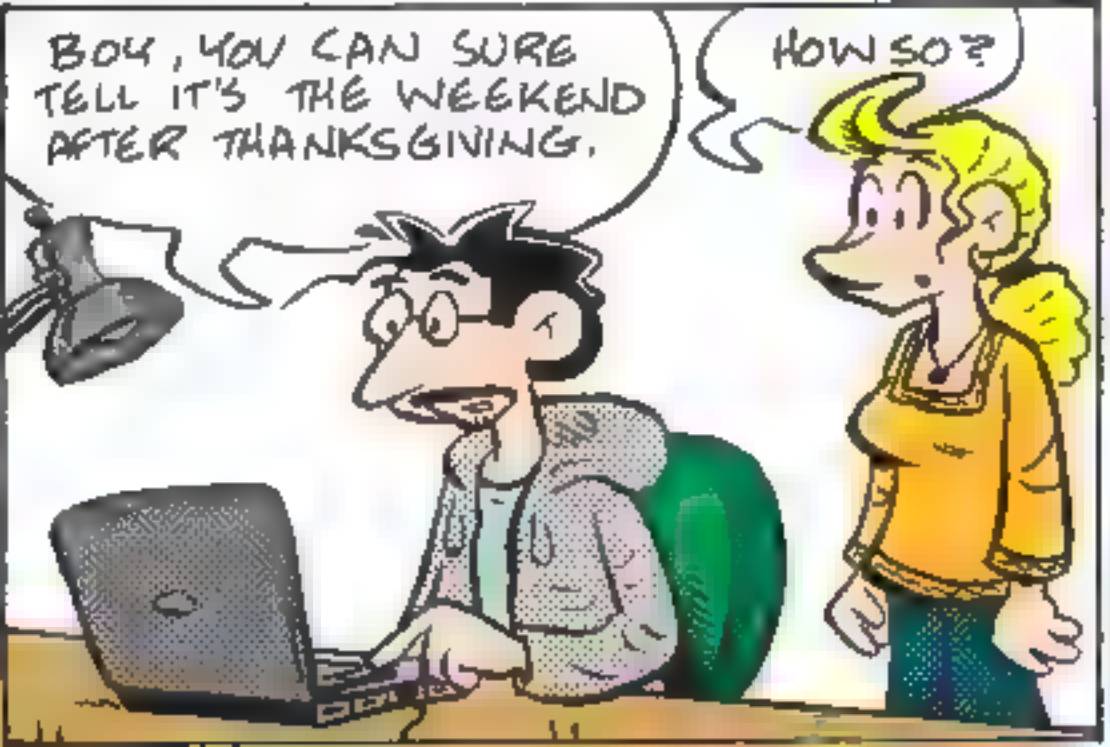



HEY, CAN YOU BRING OUT ALL THE FOOD AGAIN? I HAD MY HAND OVER THE LENS!
11.25


DON'T THINK OF IT AS EATING LEFTOVERS--THINK OF IT AS CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING IN THE POST-SEASON.
11-26



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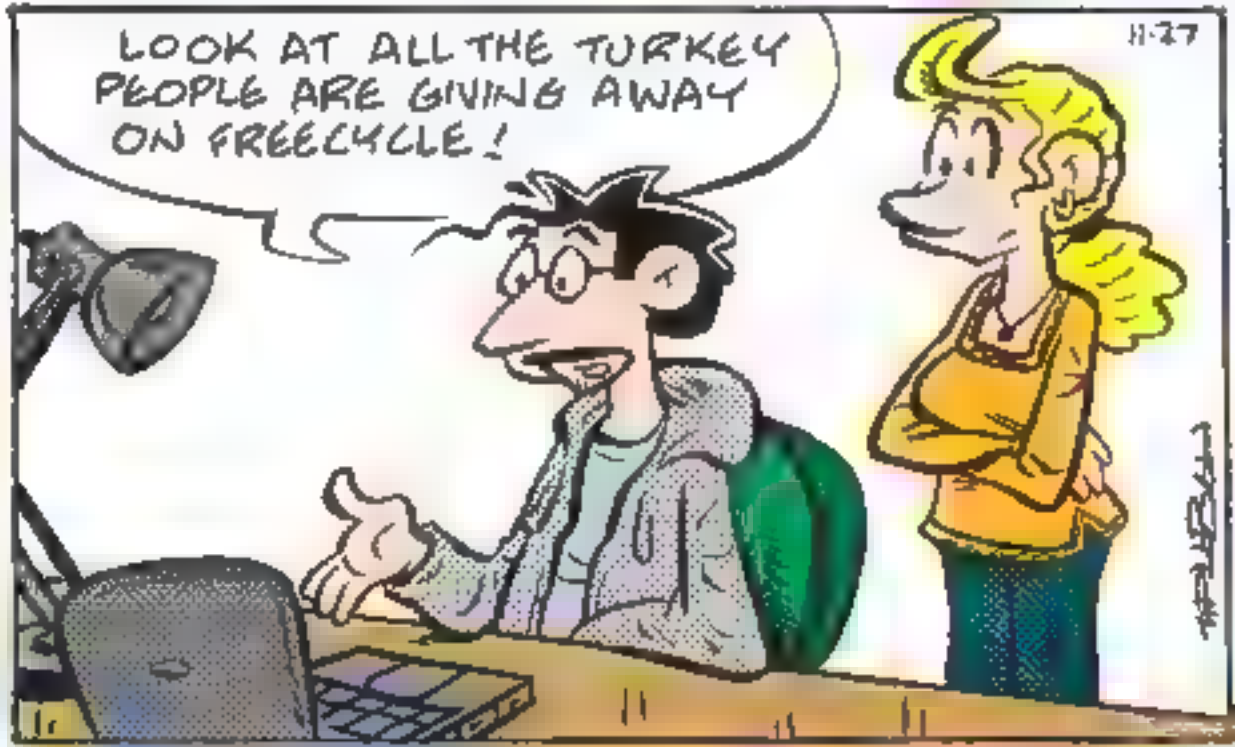
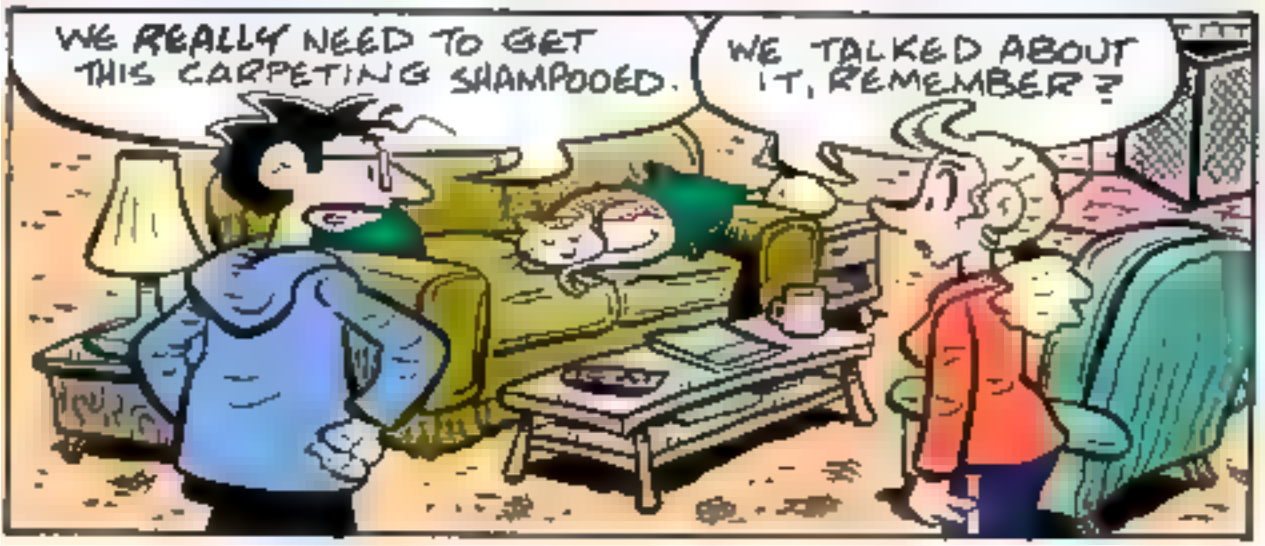
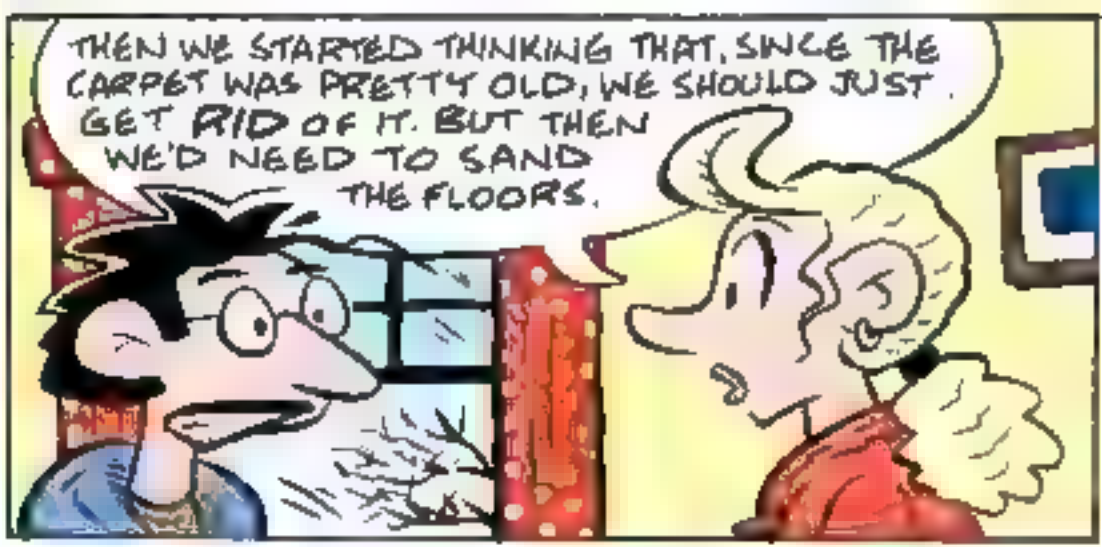
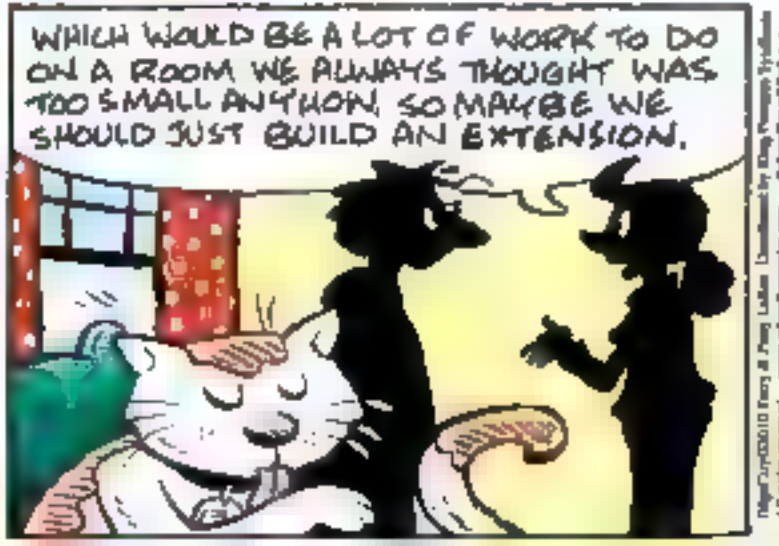
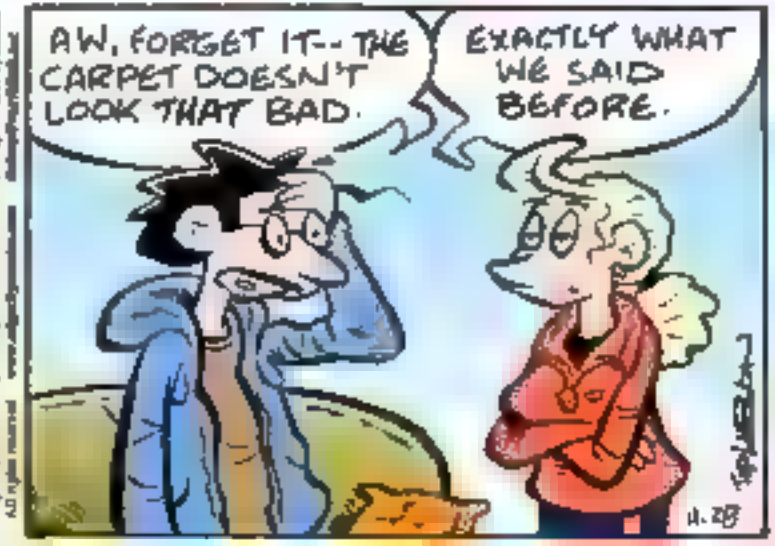



WE REALLY NEED TO GET THIS CARPETING SHAMPOOED.
WE TALKED ABOUT IT, REMEMBER?

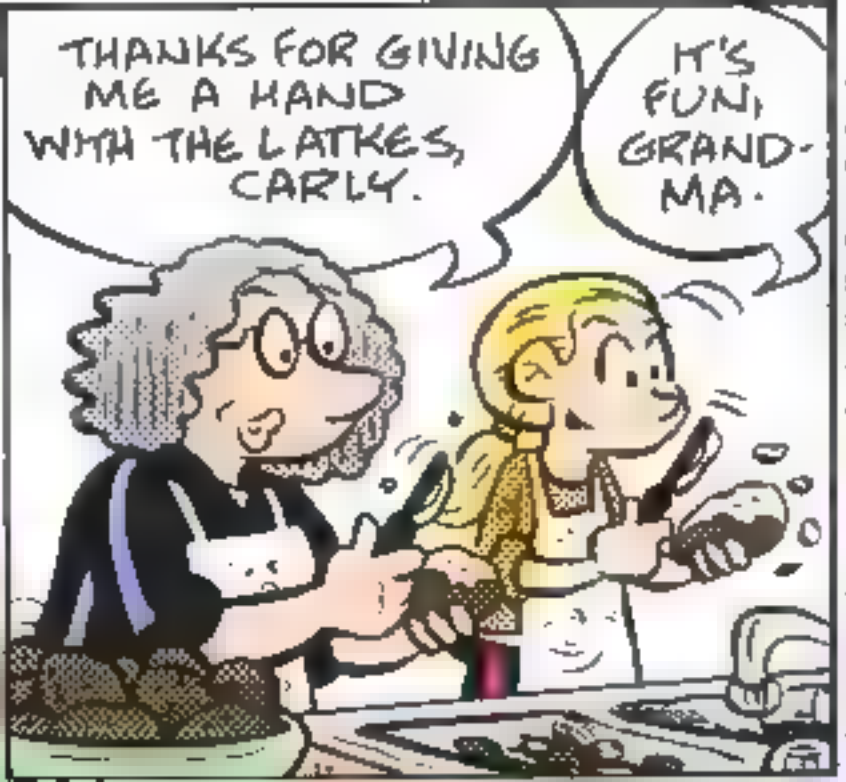

THEN WE STARTED THINKING THAT, SINCE THE CARPET WAS PRETTY OLD, WE SHOULD JUST GET RID OF IT. BUT THEN WE'D NEED TO SAND THE FLOORS.

BUT IF WE DID THE FLOORS, THE WALLS WOULD LOOK BAD, SO WE'D HAVE TO PAINT THEM.


WHICH WOULD BE A LOT OF WORK TO DO ON A ROOM WE ALWAYS THOUGHT WAS TOO SMALL ANYHOW, SO MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST BUILD AN EXTENSION.


AW, FORGET IT-- THE CARPET DOESN'T LOOK THAT BAD.
EXACTLY WHAT WE SAID BEFORE.

HI, MOM! HMMM... THAT COULD WORK. LET ME ASK HER.
11.29
GRANDMA WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU'LL COME OVER AND HELP HER MAKE LATKES.
DO I HAVE TO?
NO--BUT IT'D GIVE ME A LITTLE TIME TO GO HANUKKAH SHOP-PING.
TAKE ME OVER!



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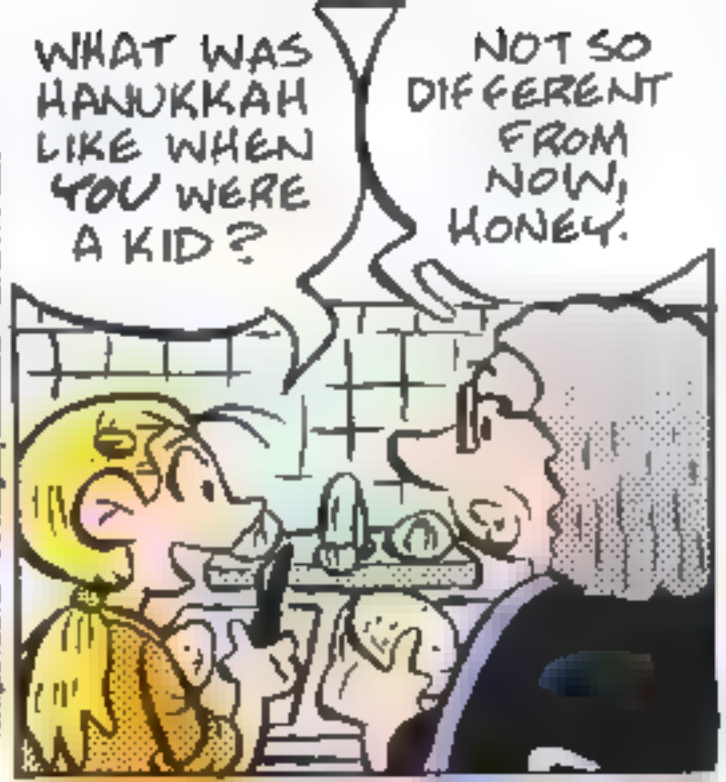
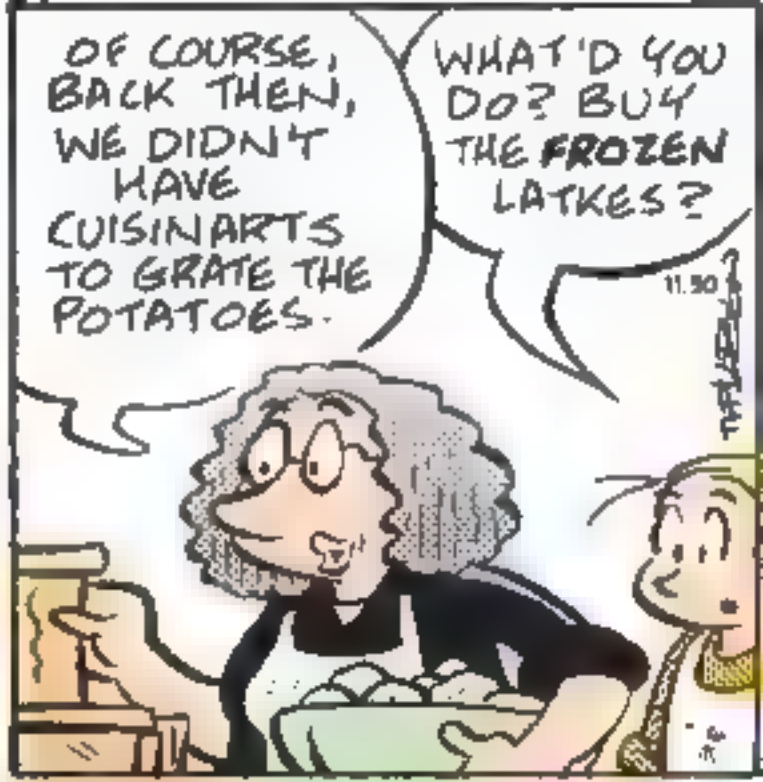
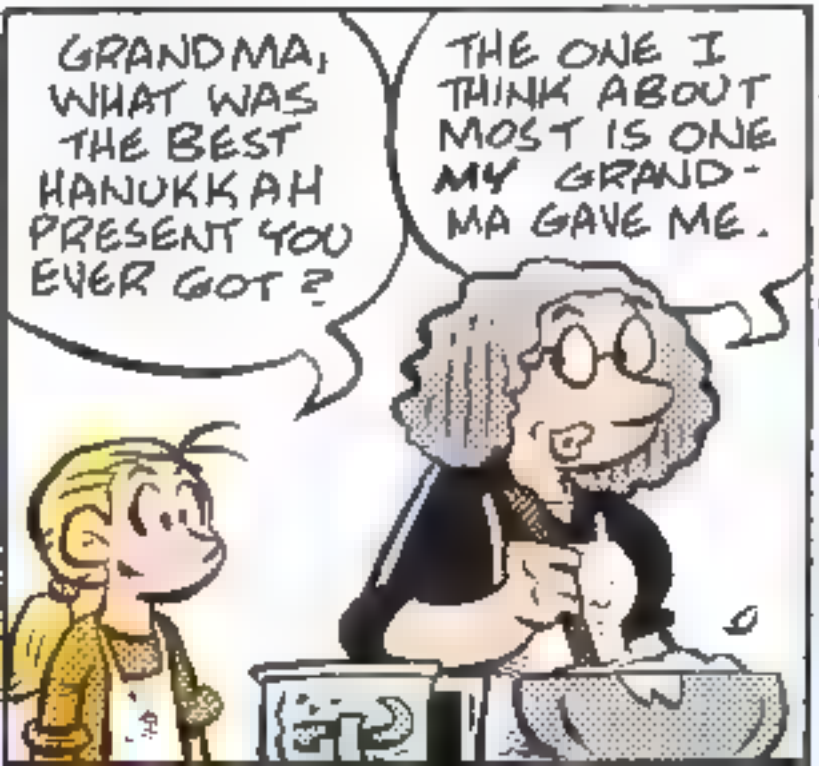
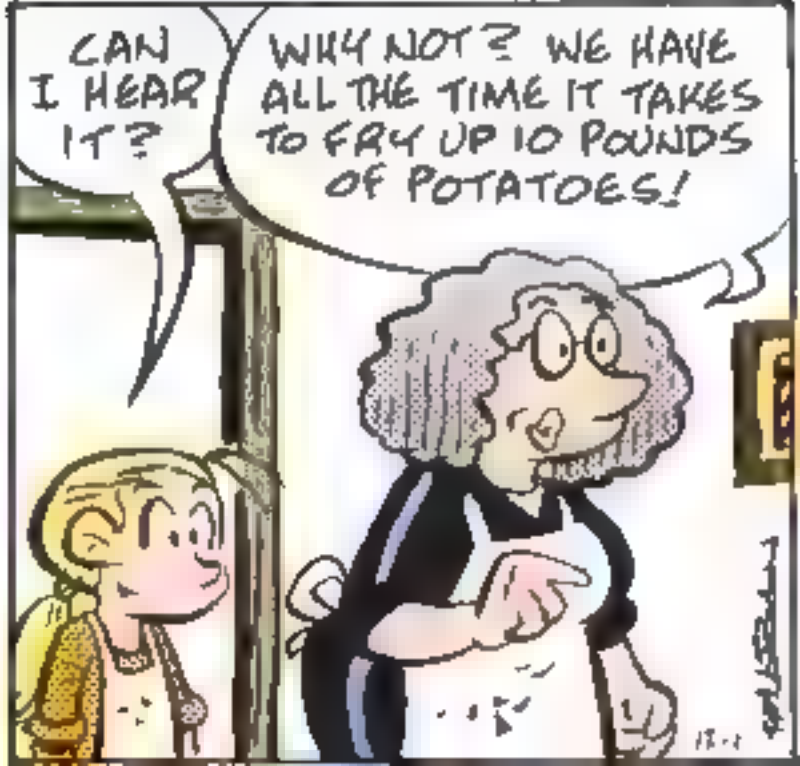
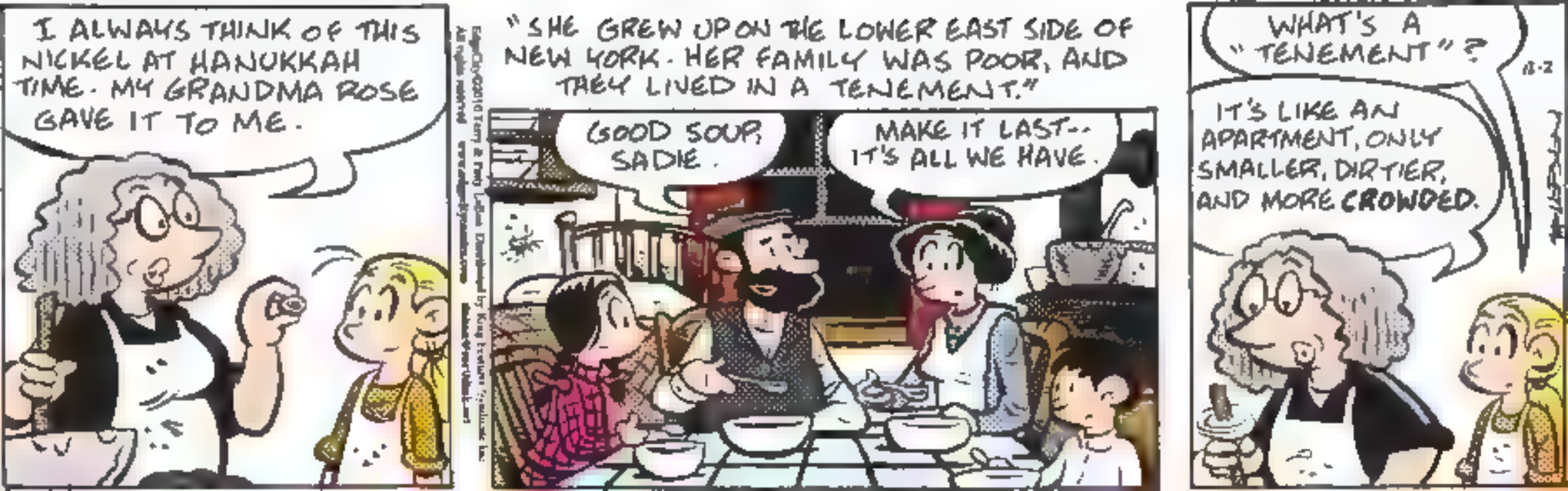





GRANDMA, WHAT WAS THE BEST HANUKKAH PRESENT YOU EVER GOT?
THE ONE I THINK ABOUT MOST IS ONE MY GRANDMA GAVE ME.

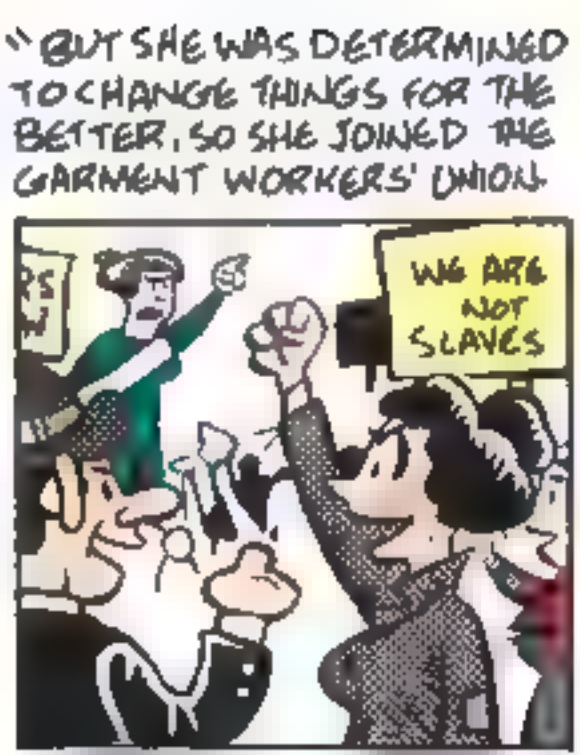
A NICKEL?
NOT JUST ANY NICKEL--IT HAS A STORY!


CAN I HEAR IT?
WHY NOT? WE HAVE ALL THE TIME IT TAKES TO FRY UP 10 POUNDS OF POTATOES!

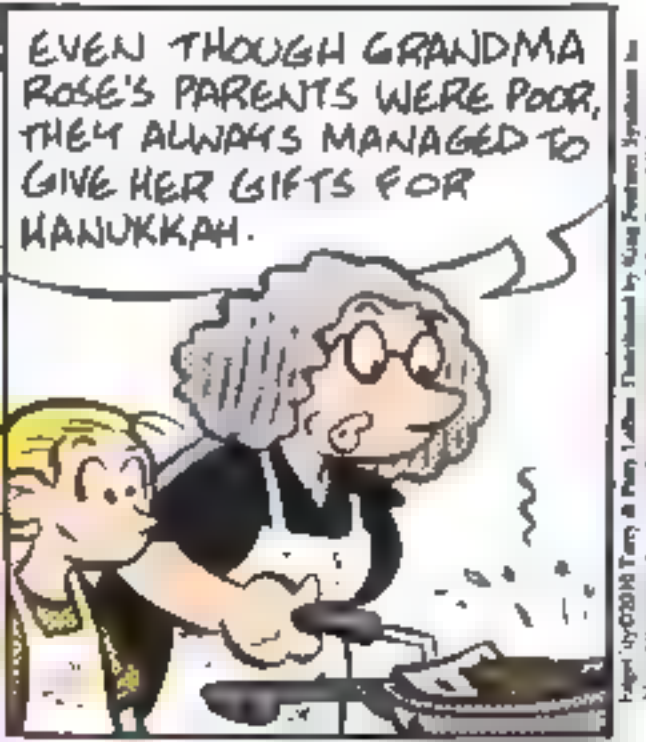

I ALWAYS THINK OF THIS NICKEL AT HANUKKAH TIME. MY GRANDMA ROSE GAVE IT TO ME.
"SHE GREW UP ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE OF NEW YORK. HER FAMILY WAS POOR, AND THEY LIVED IN A TENEMENT."
GOOD SOUP, SADIE.
MAKE IT LAST... IT'S ALL WE HAVE.
WHAT'S A "TENEMENT"?
IT'S LIKE AN APARTMENT, ONLY SMALLER, DIRTIER, AND MORE CROWDED.

GRANDMA ROSE'S MOM WORKED IN A SWEAT-SHOP, SEWING CLOTHES.

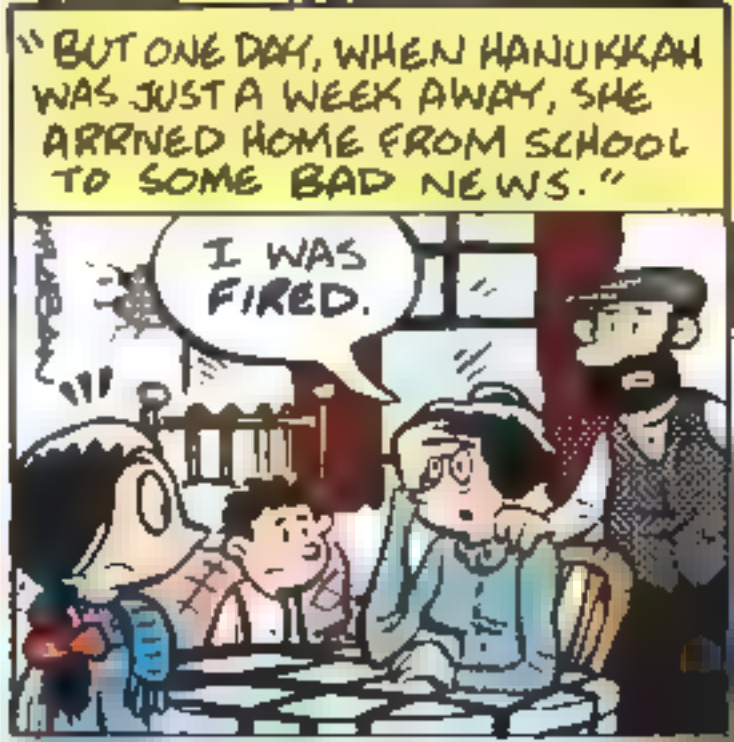
" THE CONDITIONS WERE TERRIBLE AND SHE DIDN'T MAKE MUCH MONEY.

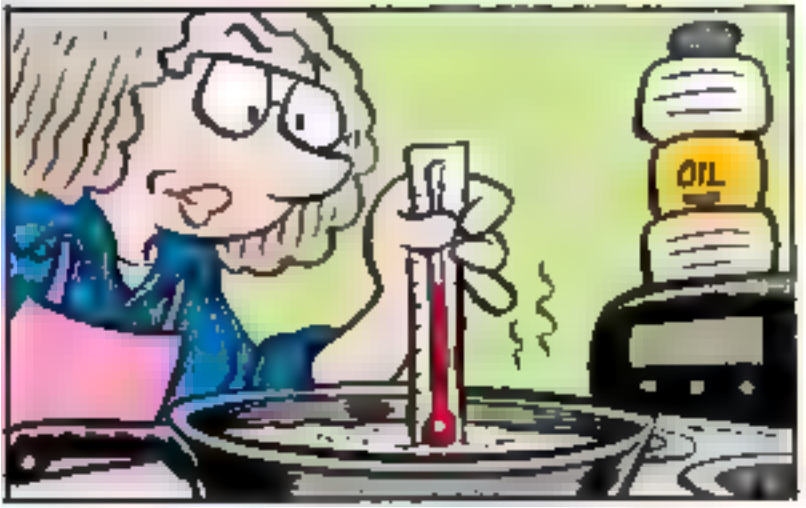

" BUT SHE WAS DETERMINED TO CHANGE THINGS FOR THE BETTER, SO SHE JOINED THE GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.
WE ARE NOT SLAVES

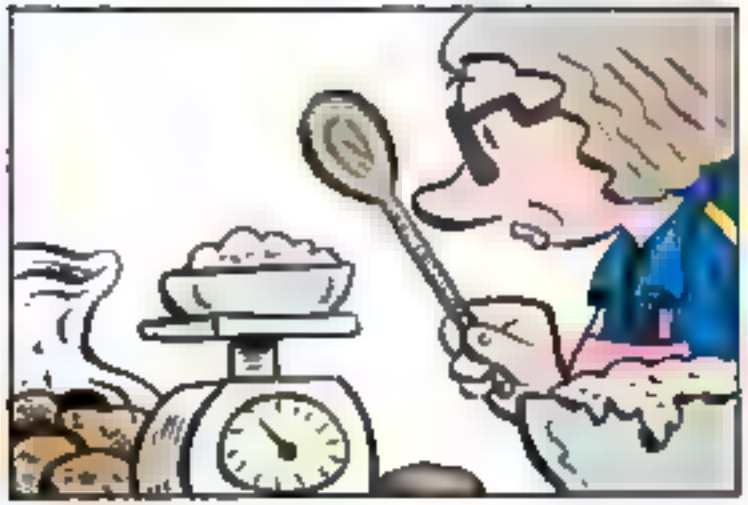
" SHE HAD TO BE CARE-FUL, THOUGH - IF HER BOSS KNEW, SHE'D BE FIRED."
YOU LOOK TIRED, SADIE. OUT LAST NIGHT?
NO -- THE KIDS WERE UP SICK.

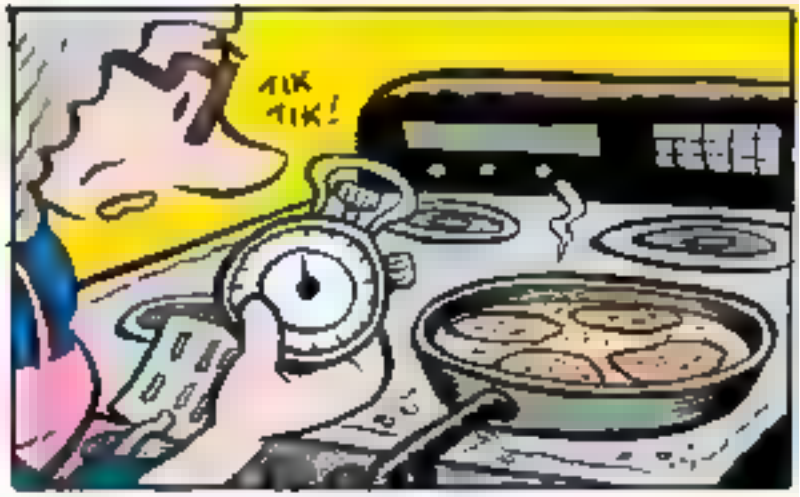

EVEN THOUGH GRANDMA ROSE'S PARENTS WERE POOR, THEY ALWAYS MANAGED TO GIVE HER GIFTS FOR HANUKKAH.

"THEY WOULDN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH TO KIDS NOW, BUT SHE LOOKED FORWARD TO THEM.
E
12-4

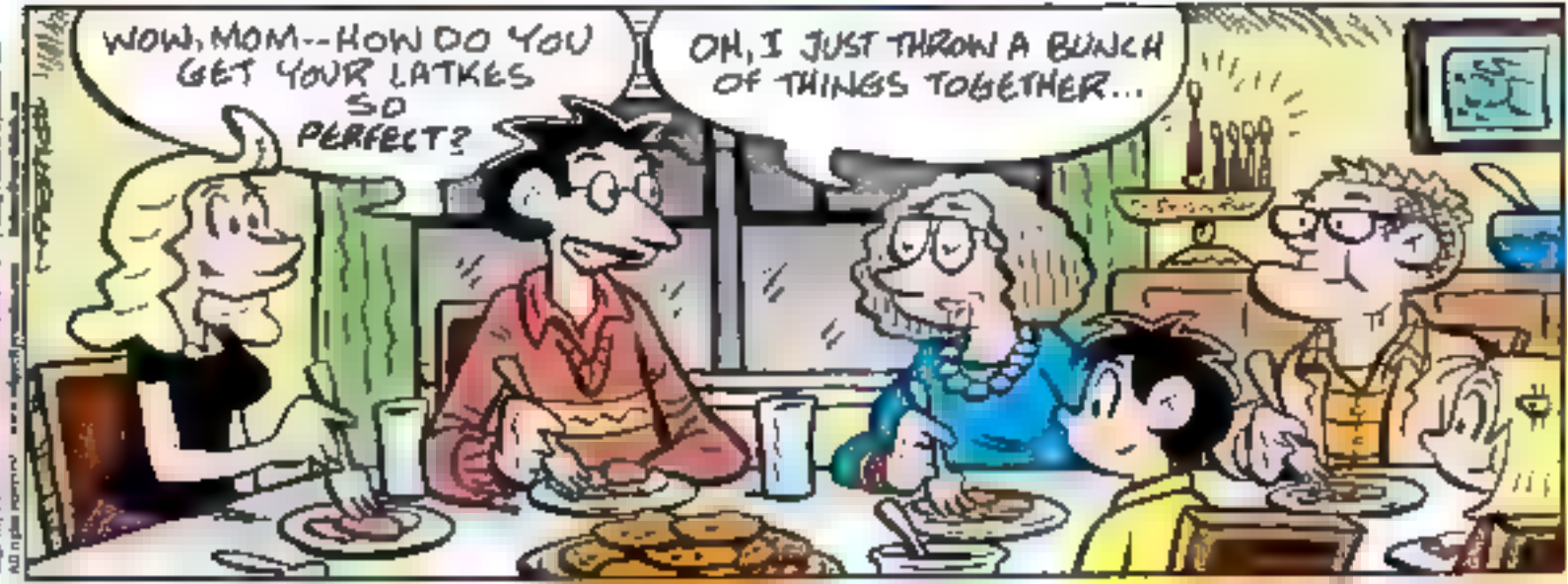

"BUT ONE DAY, WHEN HANUKKAH WAS JUST A WEEK AWAY, SHE ARRIVED HOME FROM SCHOOL TO SOME BAD NEWS."
I WAS FIRED.

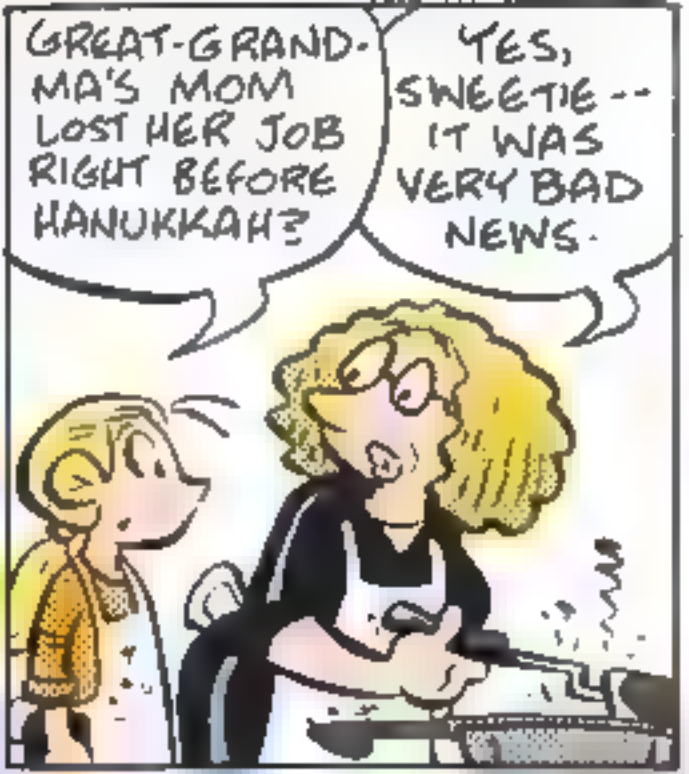

OIL

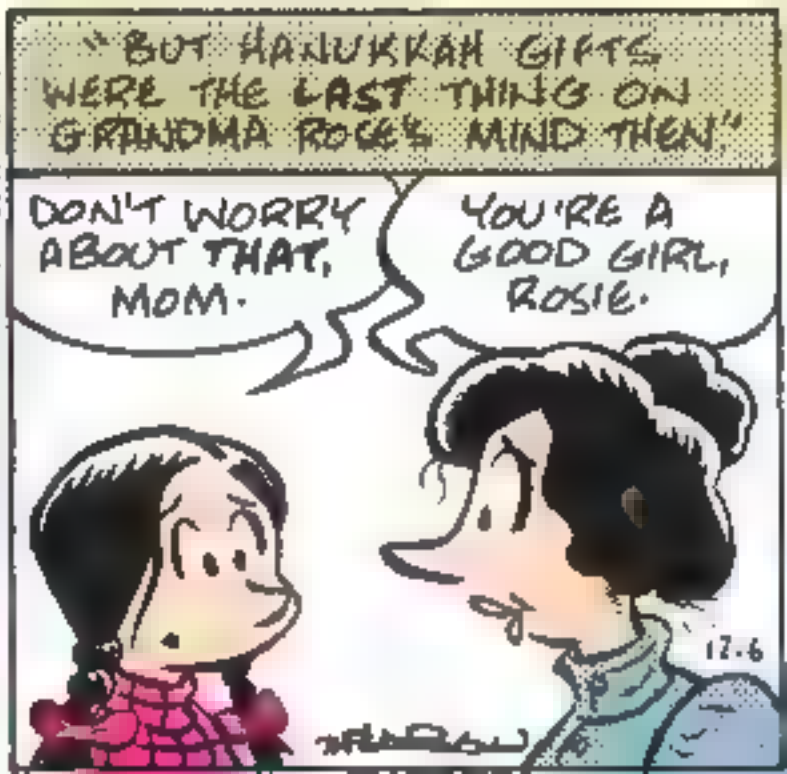



TIK TIK!

12.5
COLOR CHART


WOW, MOM--HOW DO YOU GET YOUR LATKES SO PERFECT?
OH, I JUST THROW A BUNCH OF THINGS TOGETHER...





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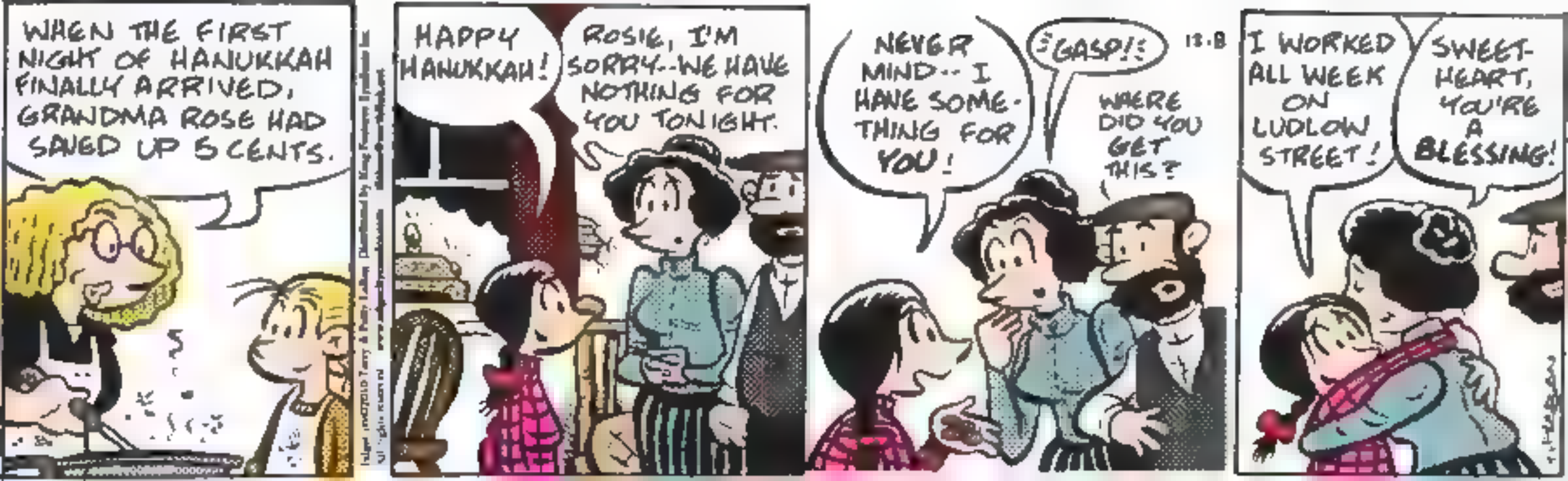
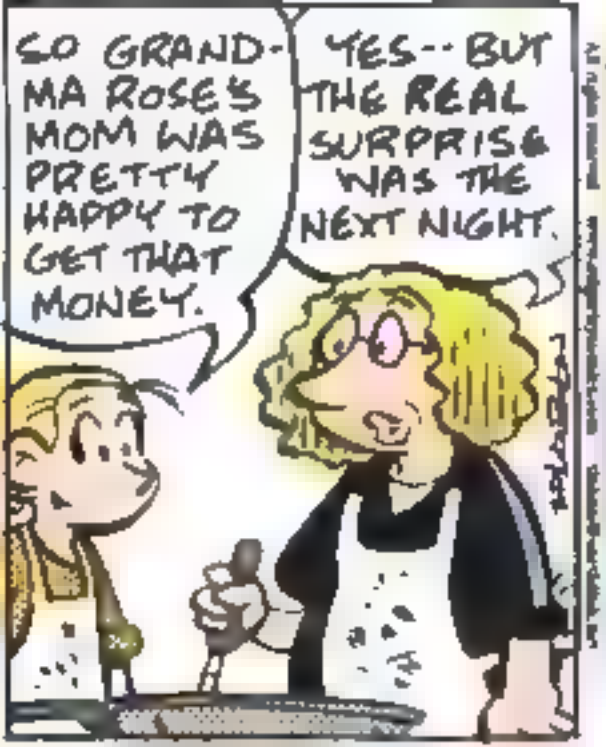
THEY WERE SO POOR! GREAT-GRANDMA MUST'VE BEEN SCARED!
YES-- BUT SHE WAS EVEN MORE DETERMINED TO HELP OUT.

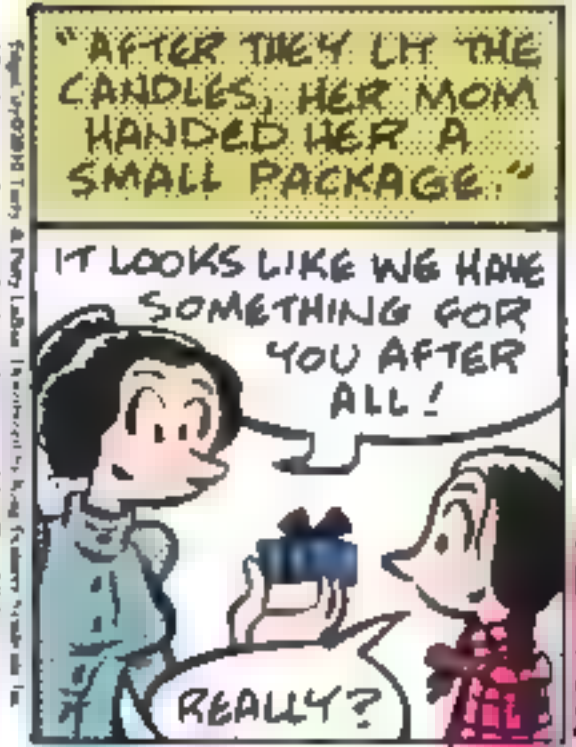
"THAT WEEK, AFTER SCHOOL, SHE WENT UP AND DOWN THE STREET LOOKING FOR WORK."
HMM... I COULD USE A GIRL TO SWEEP THE COAL CELLAR...

"IF A JOB PAID, SHE'D DO IT, NO MATTER HOW UNPLEASANT."
FINE WORK! HERE'S A PENNY!

"AND SOME JOBS WERE VERY UNPLEASANT."
BEEN AWHILE SINCE THAT STALL WAS SHOVELED.

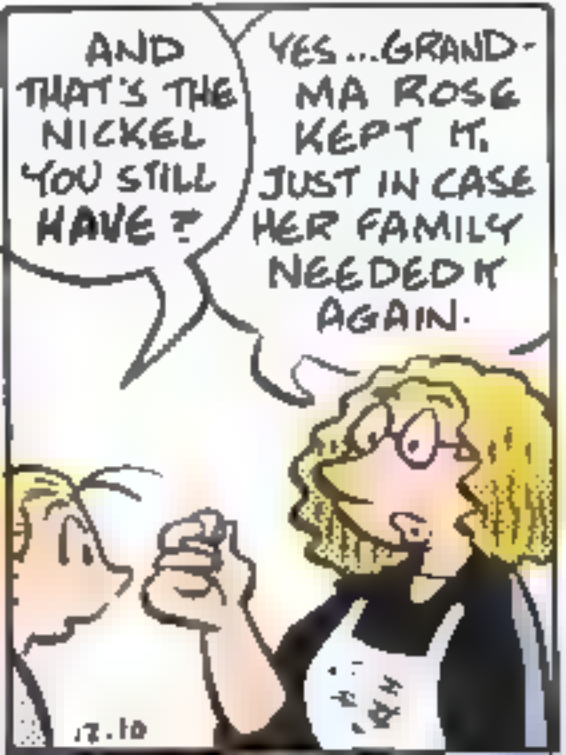

WHEN THE FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH FINALLY ARRIVED, GRANDMA ROSE HAD SAVED UP 5 CENTS.
HAPPY HANUKKAH!
ROSIE, I'M SORRY--WE HAVE NOTHING FOR YOU TONIGHT.
NEVER MIND-- I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!
GASP!
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?
I WORKED ALL WEEK ON LUDLOW STREET!
SWEETHEART, YOU'RE A BLESSING!


SO GRANDMA ROSE'S MOM WAS PRETTY HAPPY TO GET THAT MONEY.
YES-- BUT THE REAL SURPRISE WAS THE NEXT NIGHT.

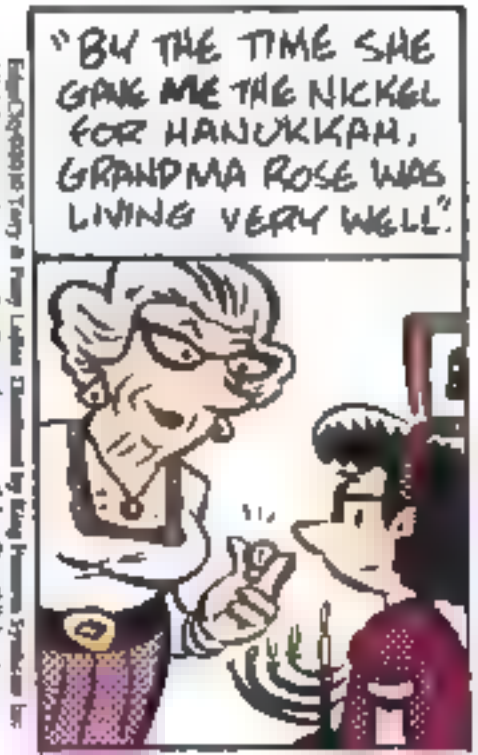

"AFTER THEY LIT THE CANDLES, HER MOM HANDED HER A SMALL PACKAGE."
IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU AFTER ALL!
REALLY?

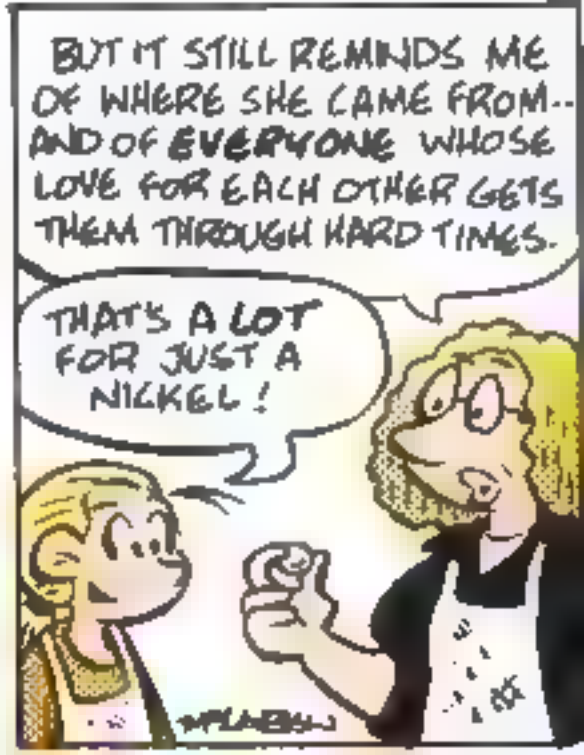
A NICKEL?!
YES, SWEETHEART.

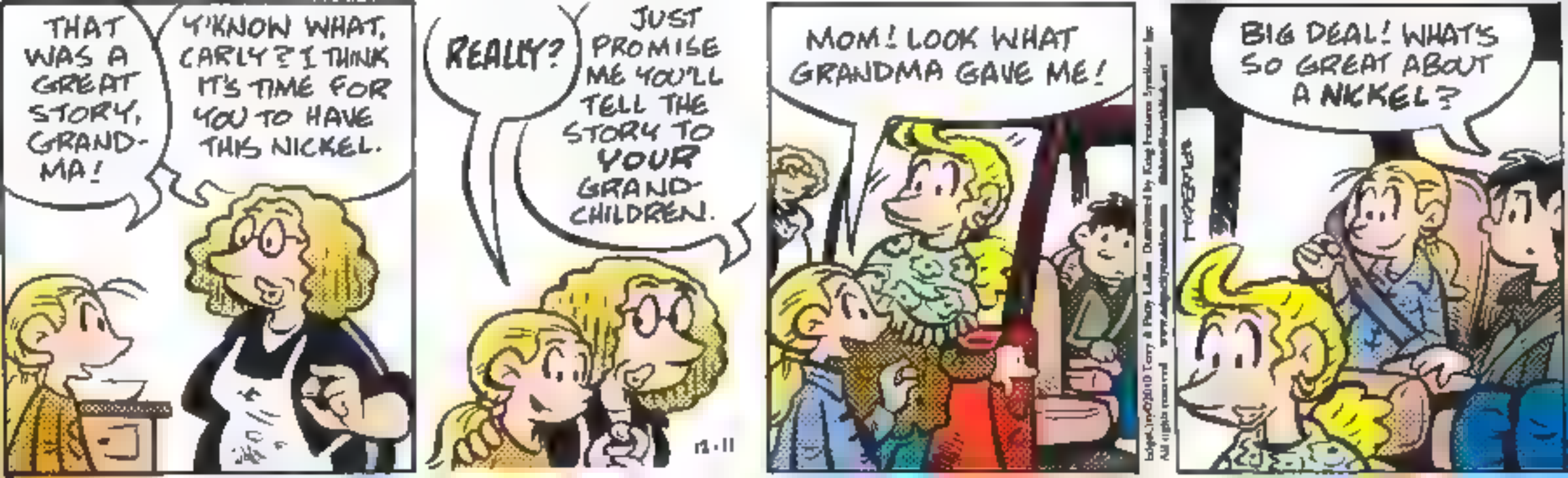
IT'S WORTH EXACTLY THE 5 PENNIES I GAVE YOU YESTERDAY!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE.


AND THAT'S THE NICKEL YOU STILL HAVE?
YES...GRANDMA ROSE KEPT IT, JUST IN CASE HER FAMILY NEEDED IT AGAIN.
12.10

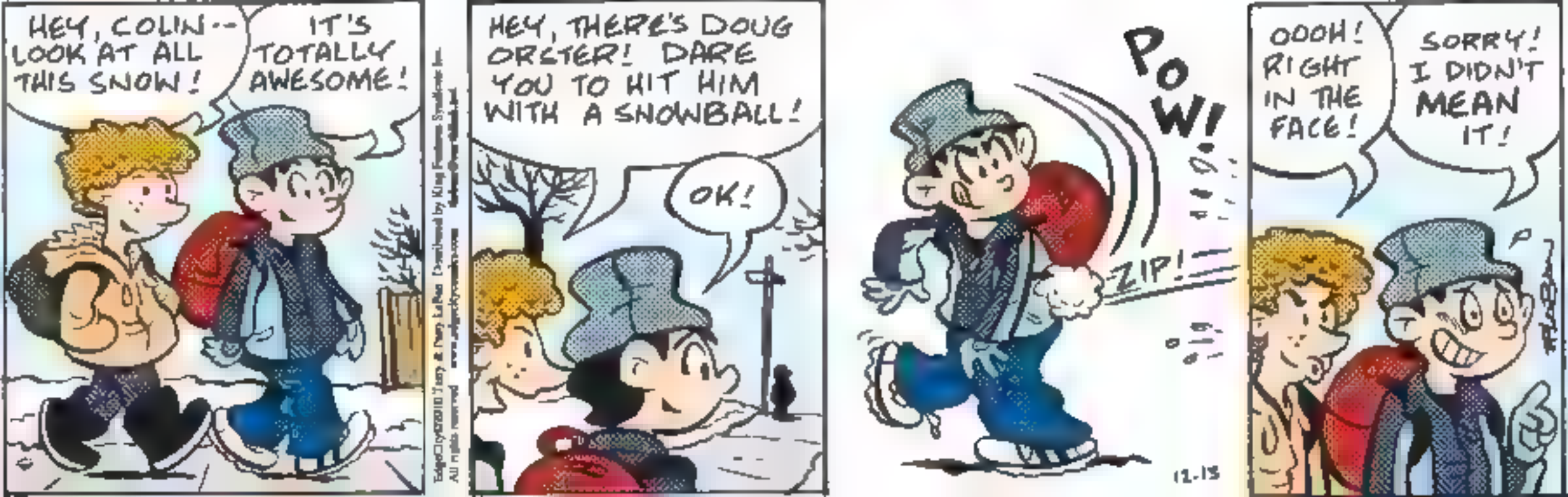
"LUCKILY, HER MOM FOUND ANOTHER JOB. EVENTUALLY, HER PARENTS SAVED ENOUGH TO OPEN A STORE AND MOVE OUT OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE."

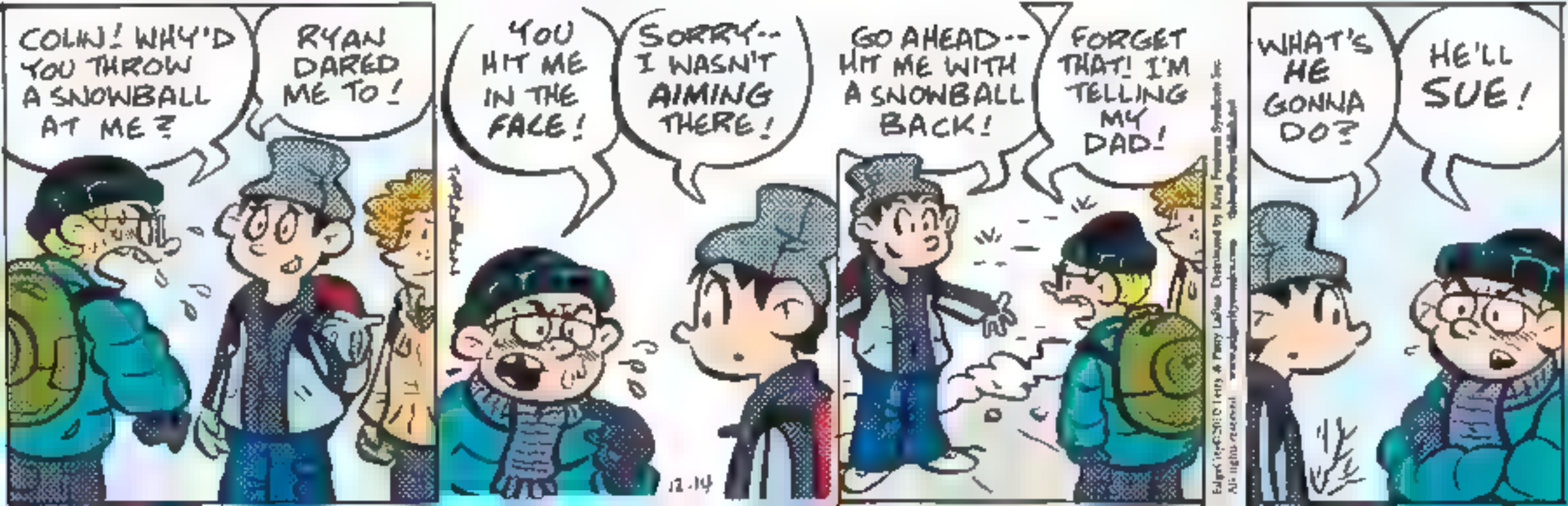

"BY THE TIME SHE GAVE ME THE NICKEL FOR HANUKKAH, GRANDMA ROSE WAS LIVING VERY WELL."

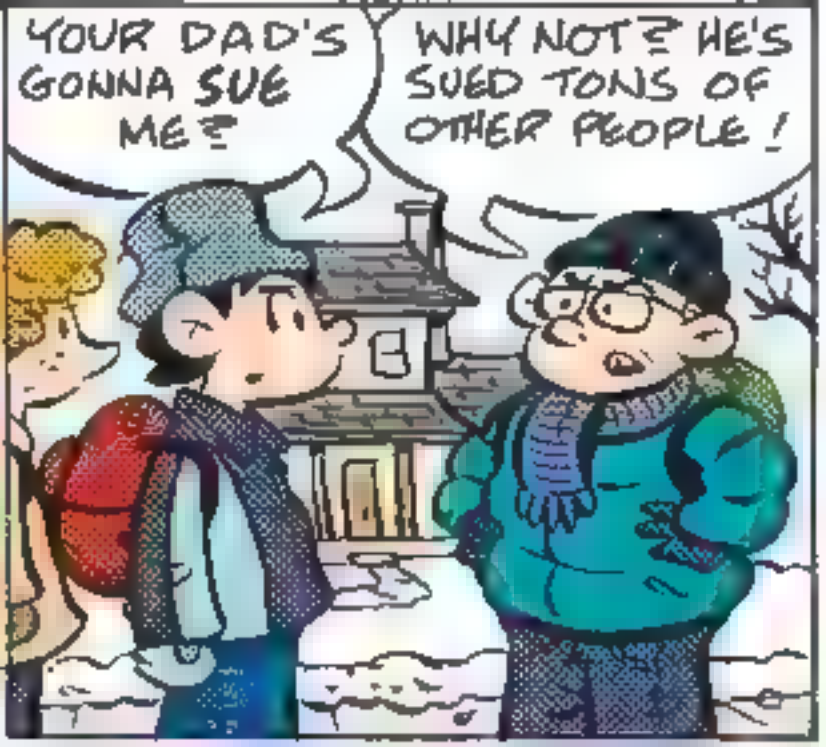

BUT IT STILL REMINDS ME OF WHERE SHE CAME FROM.. AND OF EVERYONE WHOSE LOVE FOR EACH OTHER GETS THEM THROUGH HARD TIMES.
THAT'S A LOT FOR JUST A NICKEL!


THAT WAS A GREAT STORY, GRANDMA!
Y'KNOW WHAT, CARLY? I THINK IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO HAVE THIS NICKEL.
REALLY?
JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL TELL THE STORY TO YOUR GRANDCHILDREN.
MOM! LOOK WHAT GRANDMA GAVE ME!
BIG DEAL! WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT A NICKEL?

I WAS HOPING THIS YEAR WE'D BE ABLE TO THROW A PROPER HOLIDAY PARTY.
WELL, AT LEAST THIS PARTY'S BETTER THAN THE LAST ONE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE'RE HAVING AN OFFICE POTLUCK, JUST LIKE LAST YEAR!
TRUE.
BUT THIS TIME, THERE'S ENTERTAINMENT.
...AND II-YII WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOO-OOOU...
RENT-A KARAOKE


HEY, COLIN -- LOOK AT ALL THIS SNOW!
IT'S TOTALLY AWESOME!
HEY, THERE'S DOUG ORSTER! DARE YOU TO HIT HIM WITH A SNOWBALL!
OK!
POW!
ZIP!
12-15
OOOH! RIGHT IN THE FACE!
SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN IT!


COLIN! WHY'D YOU THROW A SNOWBALL AT ME?
RYAN DARED ME TO!
YOU HIT ME IN THE FACE!
SORRY-- I WASN'T AIMING THERE!
12-14
GO AHEAD-- HIT ME WITH A SNOWBALL BACK!
FORGET THAT! I'M TELLING MY DAD!
WHAT'S HE GONNA DO?
HE'LL SUE!



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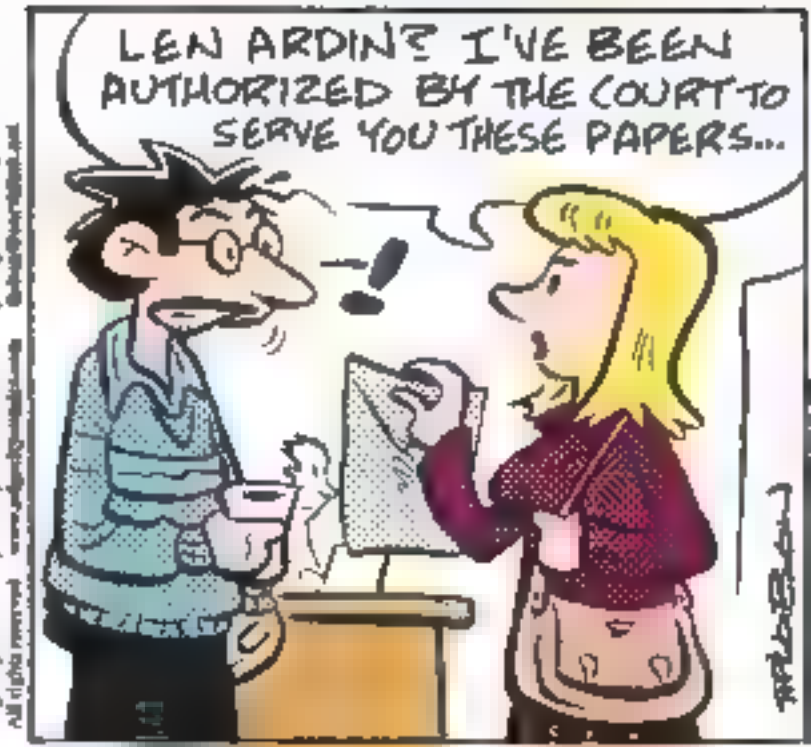
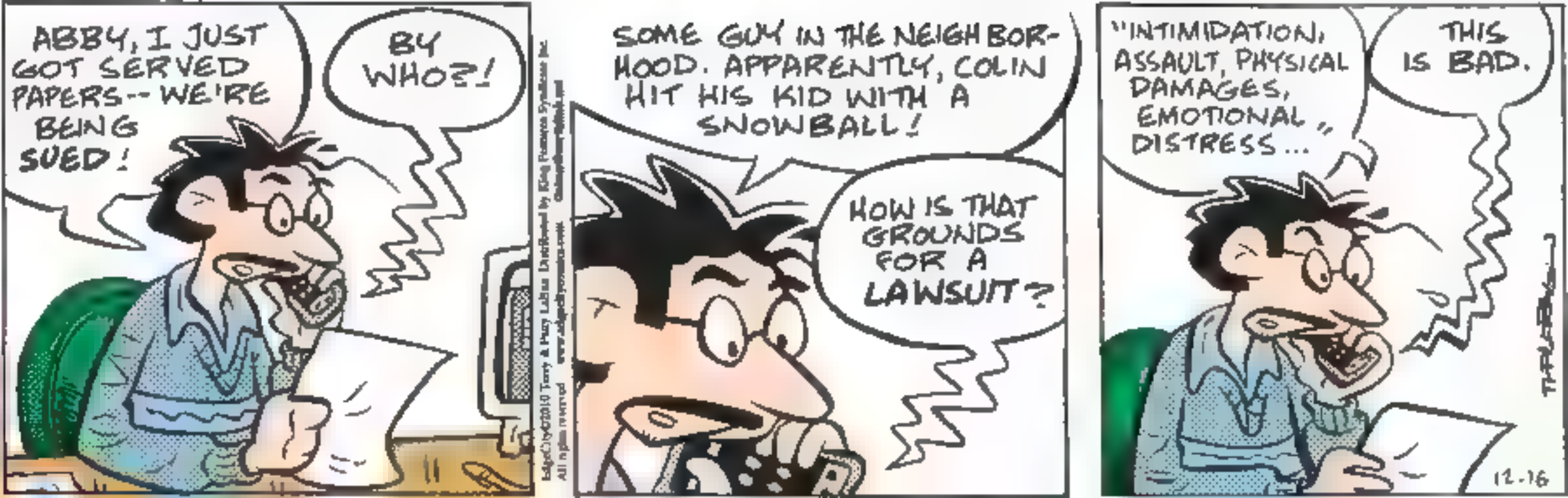
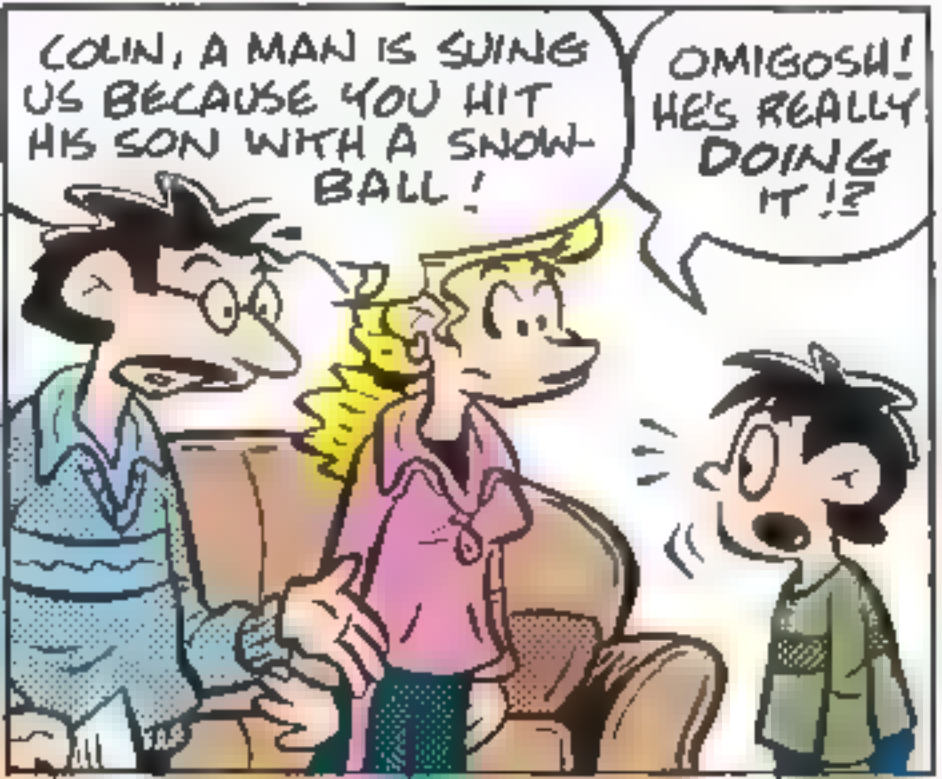



ABBY, I JUST GOT SERVED PAPERS -- WE'RE BEING SUED!
BY WHO?!
SOME GUY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. APPARENTLY, COLIN HIT HIS KID WITH A SNOWBALL!
HOW IS THAT GROUNDS FOR A LAWSUIT?
"INTIMIDATION, ASSAULT, PHYSICAL DAMAGES, EMOTIONAL DISTRESS...
THIS IS BAD.
12-16



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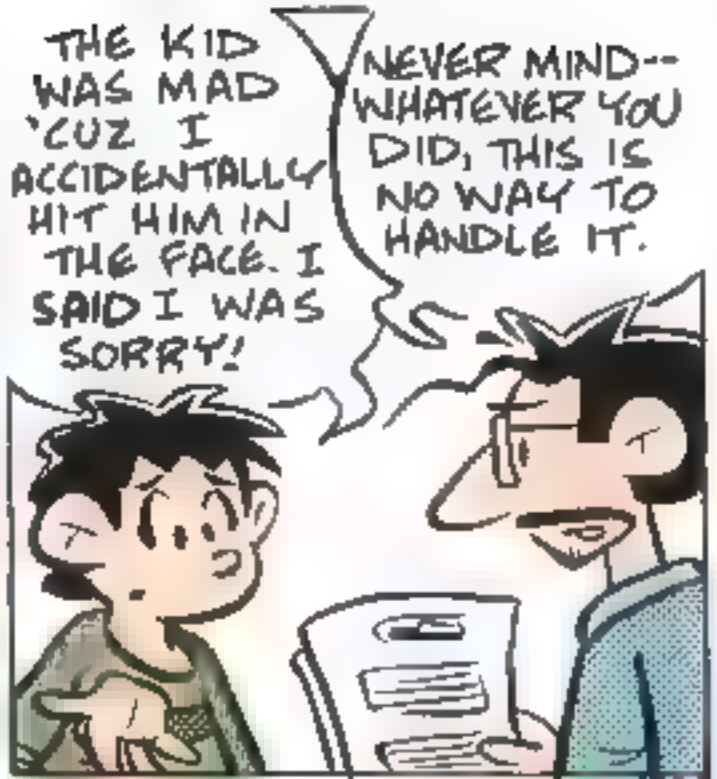

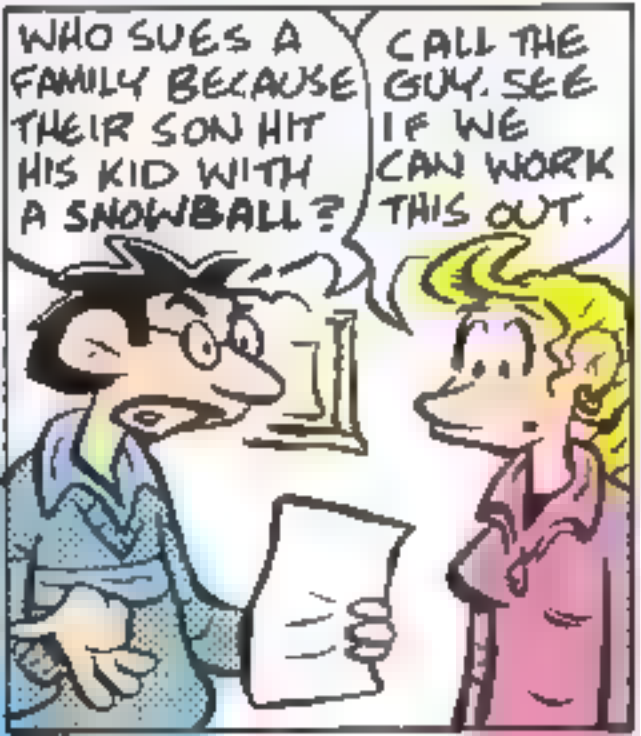

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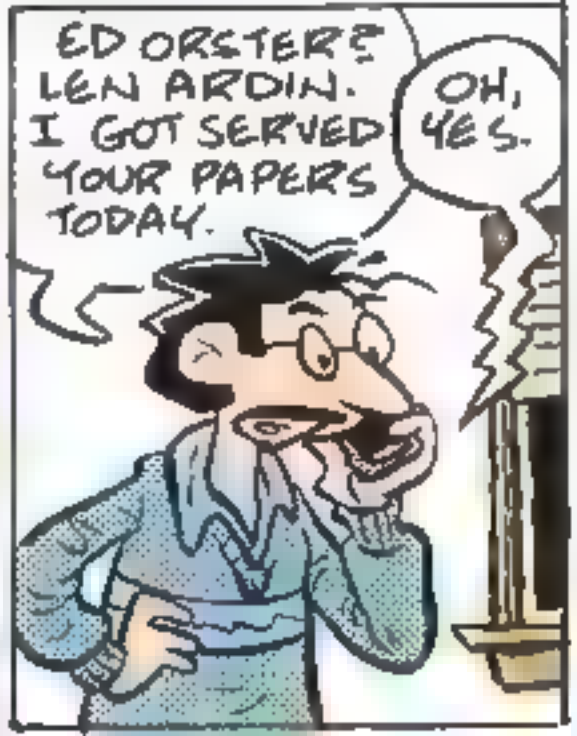
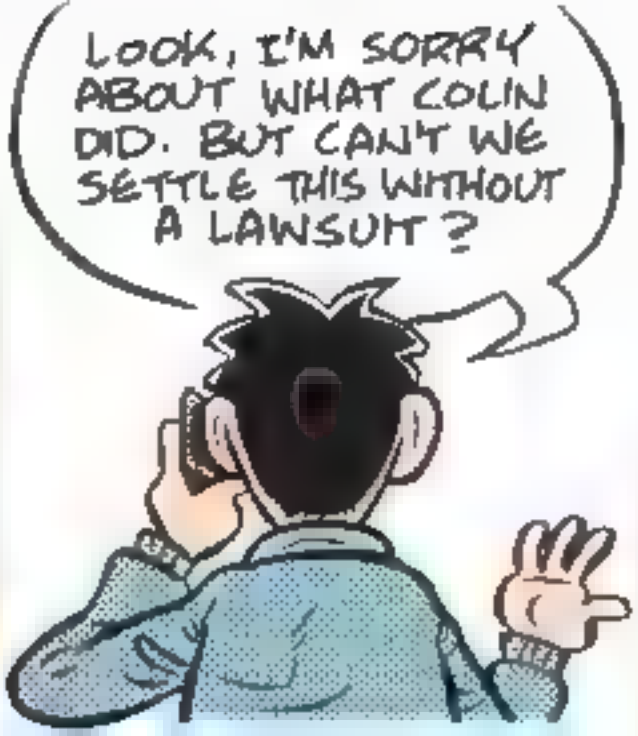
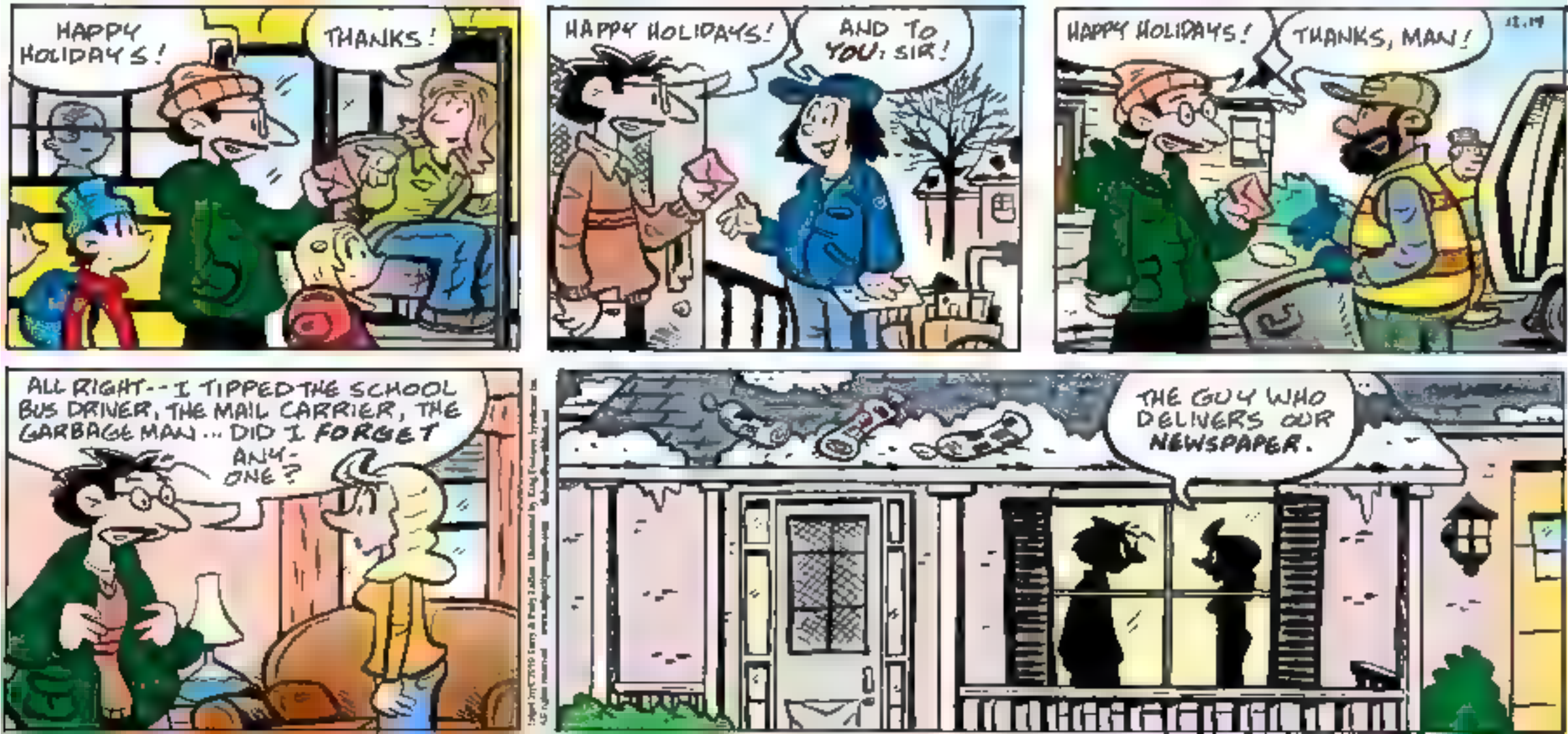
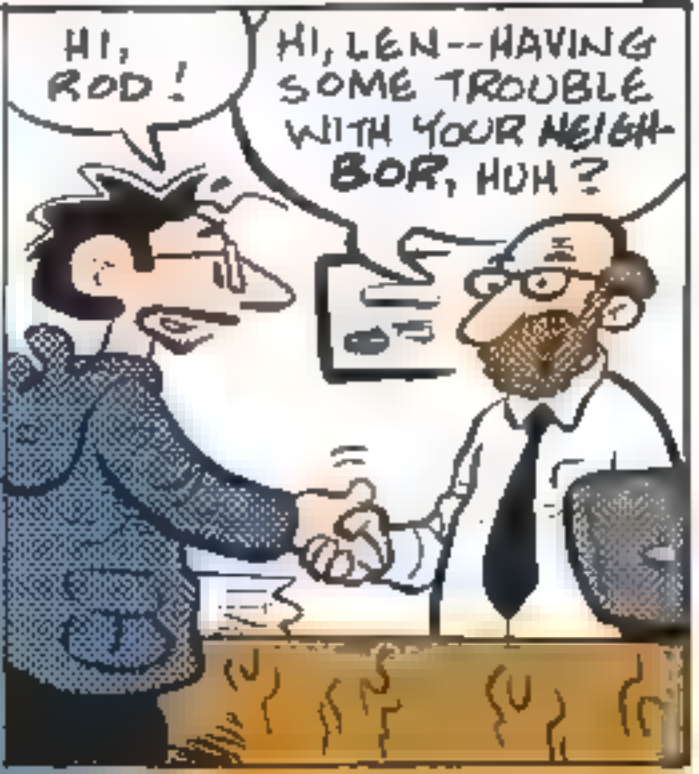
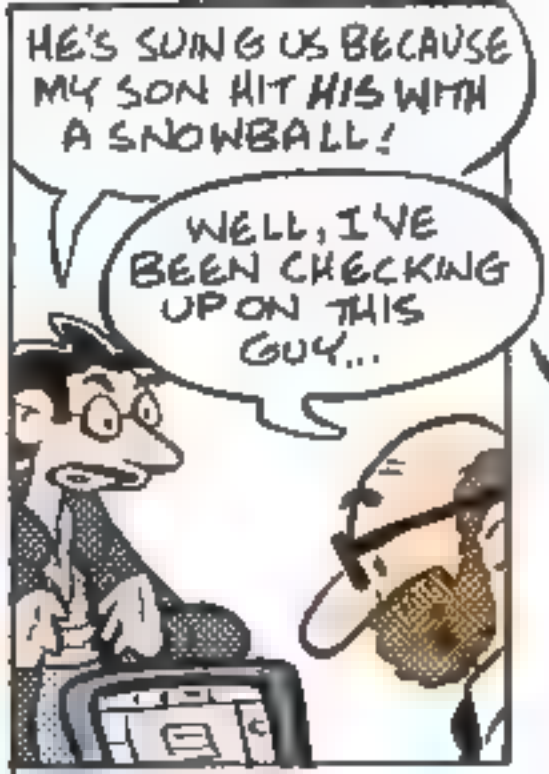





HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
THANKS!
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
AND TO YOU, SIR!
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
THANKS, MAN!
ALL RIGHT-- I TIPPED THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER, THE MAIL CARRIER, THE GARBAGE MAN... DID I FORGET ANY-ONE?
THE GUY WHO DELIVERS OUR NEWSPAPER.





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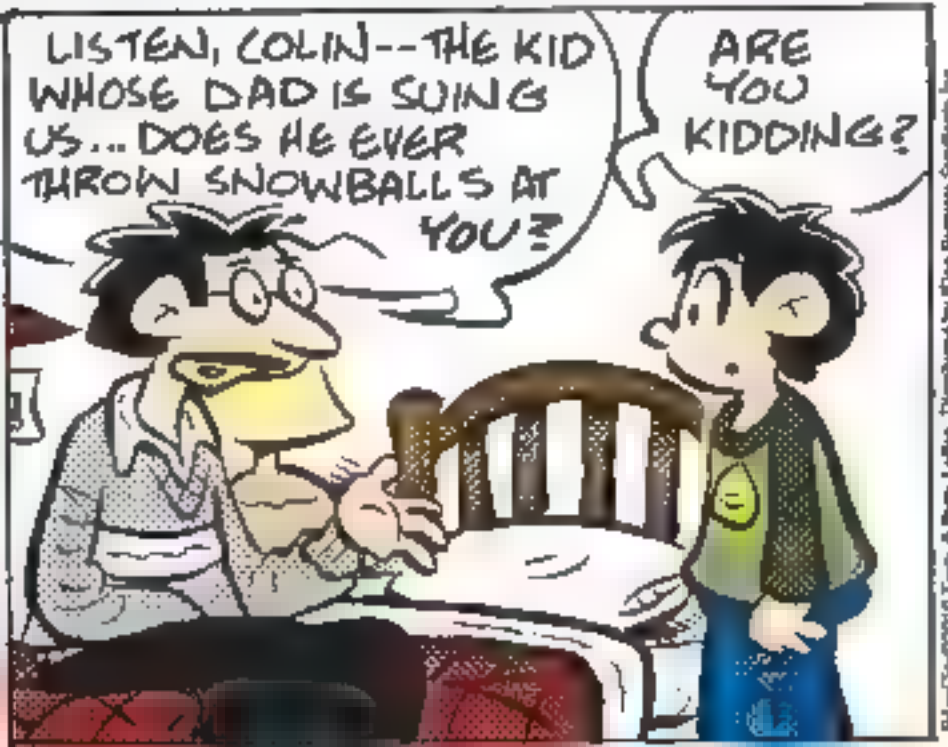
MY KID HIT HIS KID WITH A SNOWBALL! THAT MEANS HE CAN SUE ME?!
HE CAN AND HE DID. NOW YOU HAVE 2 CHOICES.
YOU CAN SETTLE.
NO WAY! THAT'S JUST WHAT HE WANTS!
12.21
OR YOU CAN TAKE IT TO COURT.
THE TIME... THE MONEY... IMPOSSIBLE!
WELL, UNLESS YOU CAN FIND A VIDEO OF HIS KID ATTACKING YOURS..
HMM...



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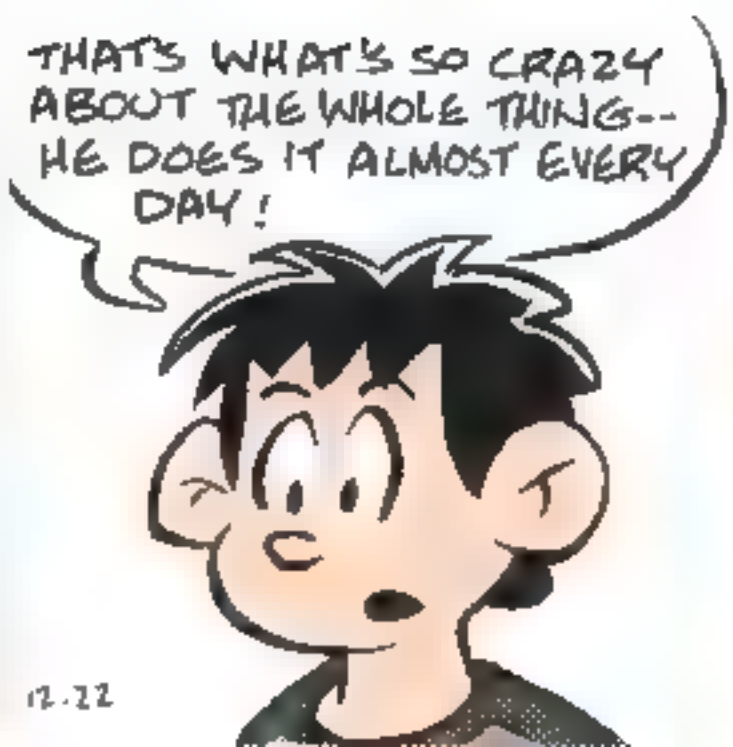
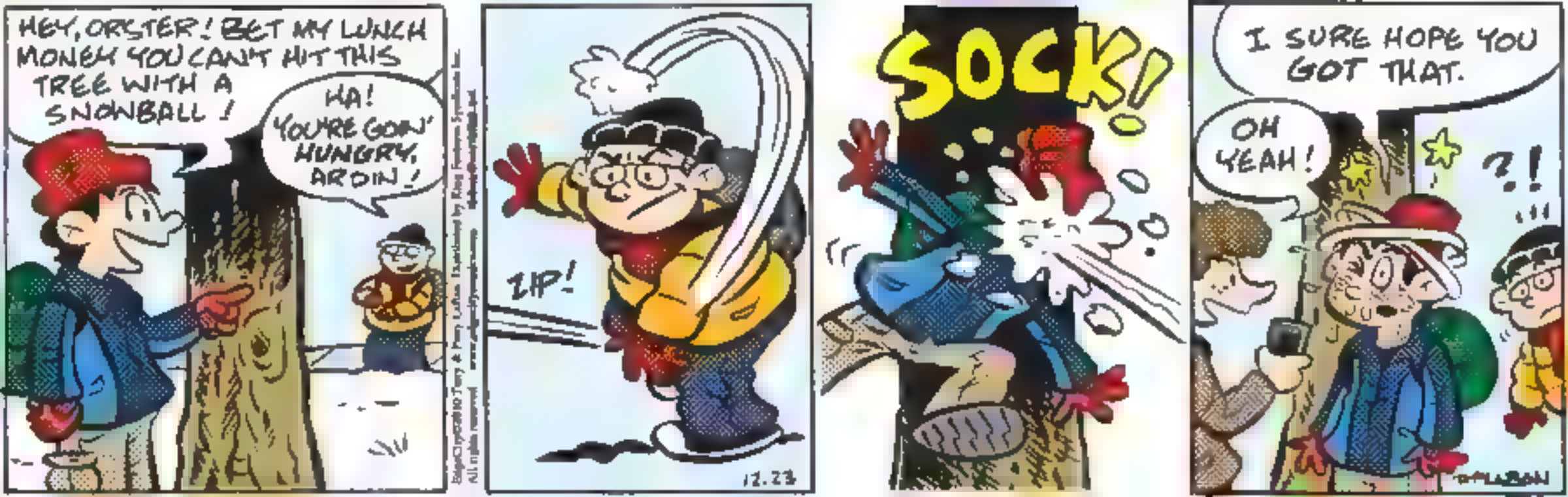
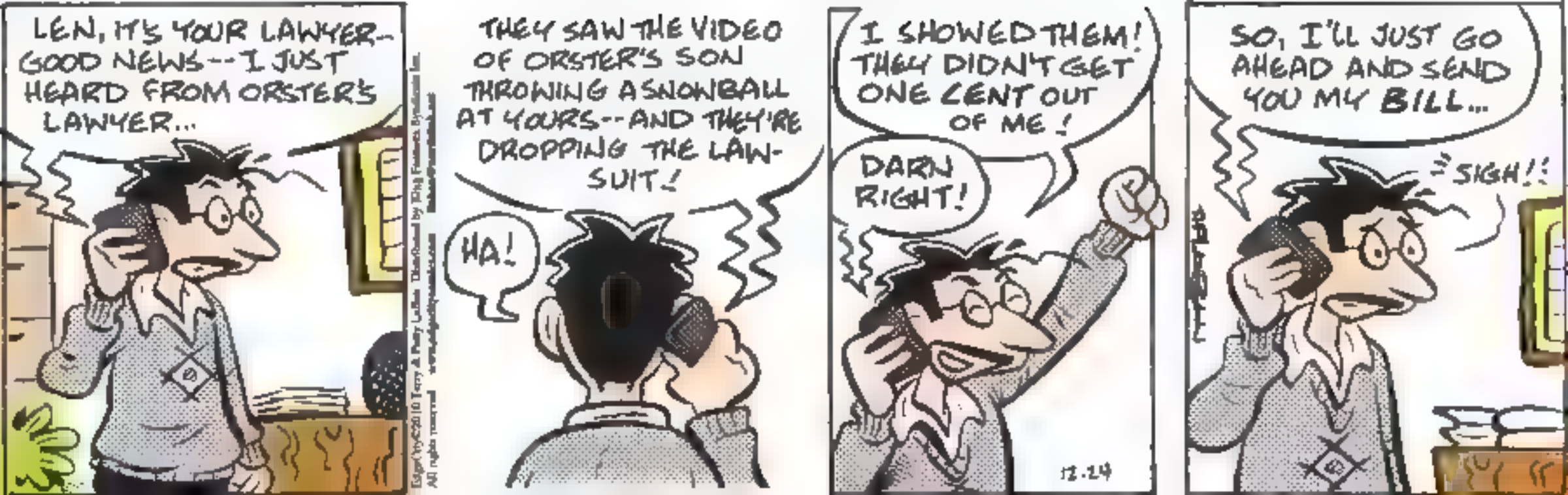
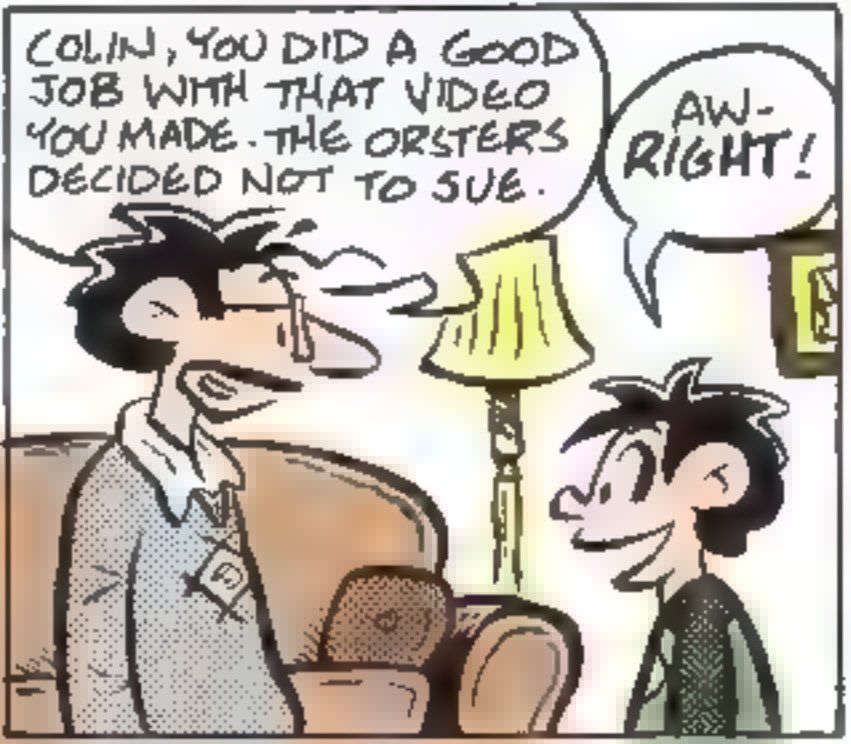
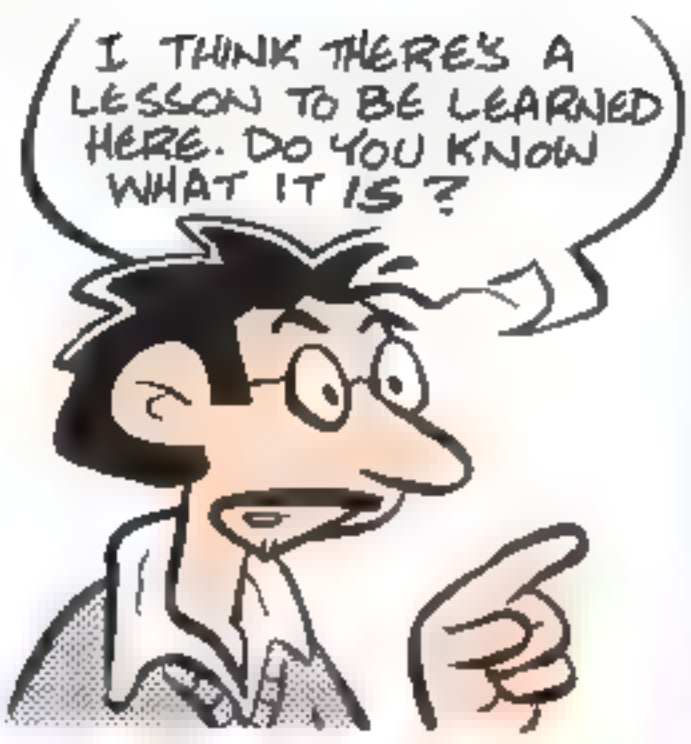



HEY, ORSTER! BET MY LUNCH MONEY YOU CAN'T HIT THIS TREE WITH A SNOWBALL!
HA! YOU'RE GOIN' HUNGRY, ARDIN!
ZIP!
12.23
SOCK!
I SURE HOPE YOU GOT THAT.
OH YEAH!
?!


LEN, IT'S YOUR LAWYER-- GOOD NEWS--I JUST HEARD FROM ORSTER'S LAWYER...
THEY SAW THE VIDEO OF ORSTER'S SON THROWING A SNOWBALL AT YOURS--AND THEY'RE DROPPING THE LAWSUIT!
HA!
I SHOWED THEM! THEY DIDN'T GET ONE CENT OUT OF ME!
DARN RIGHT!
12.24
SO, I'LL JUST GO AHEAD AND SEND YOU MY BILL...
SIGH!!





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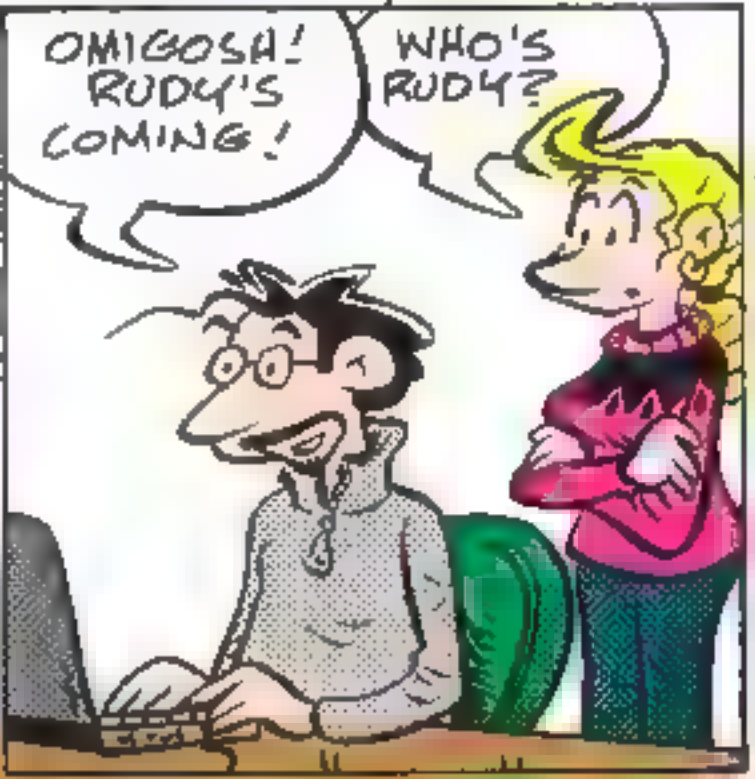
10...9...8...7...
TAPA TAPA!
...6...5...4...
TAPA TAPA!
...3...2...1...
TAPA TAPA
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
IS IT REALLY COOL OR REALLY PATHETIC THAT WE JUST CELEBRATED NEW YEAR'S EVE ON FACEBOOK?
HERE--TAKE THIS AND I'LL POST A PICTURE OF YOU DRINKING CHAMPAGNE!



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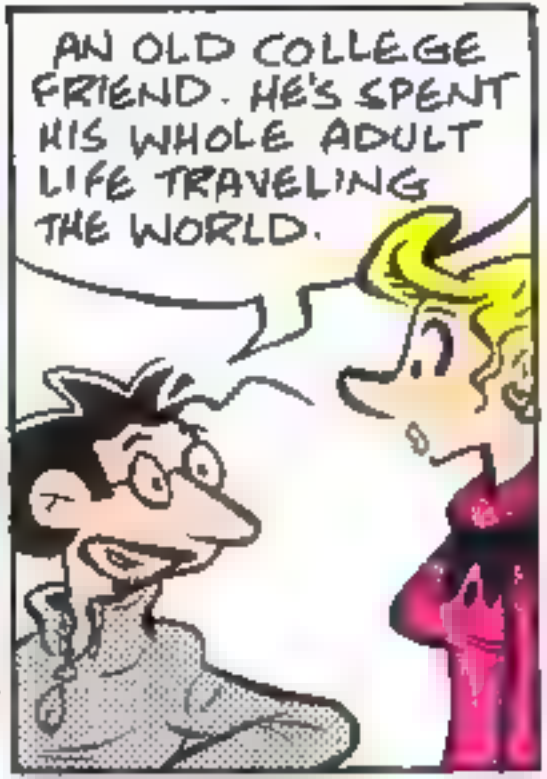

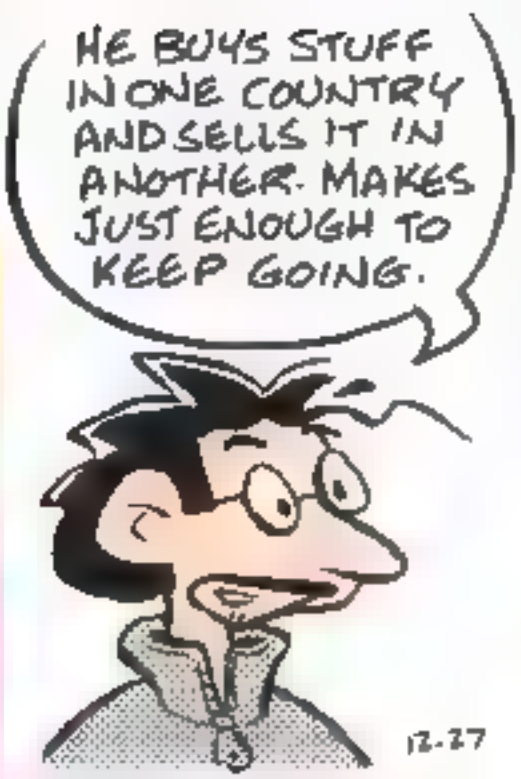

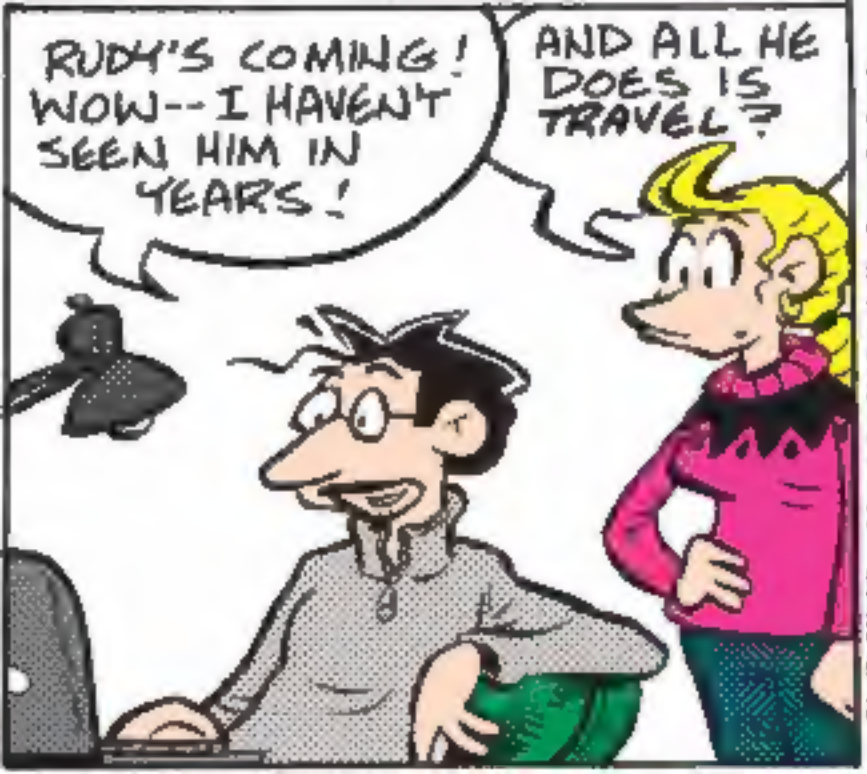

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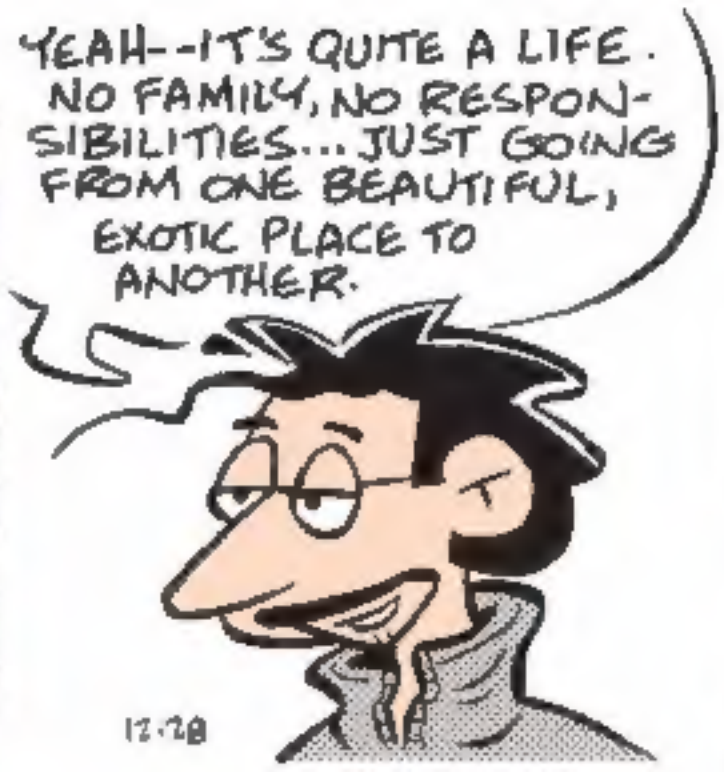
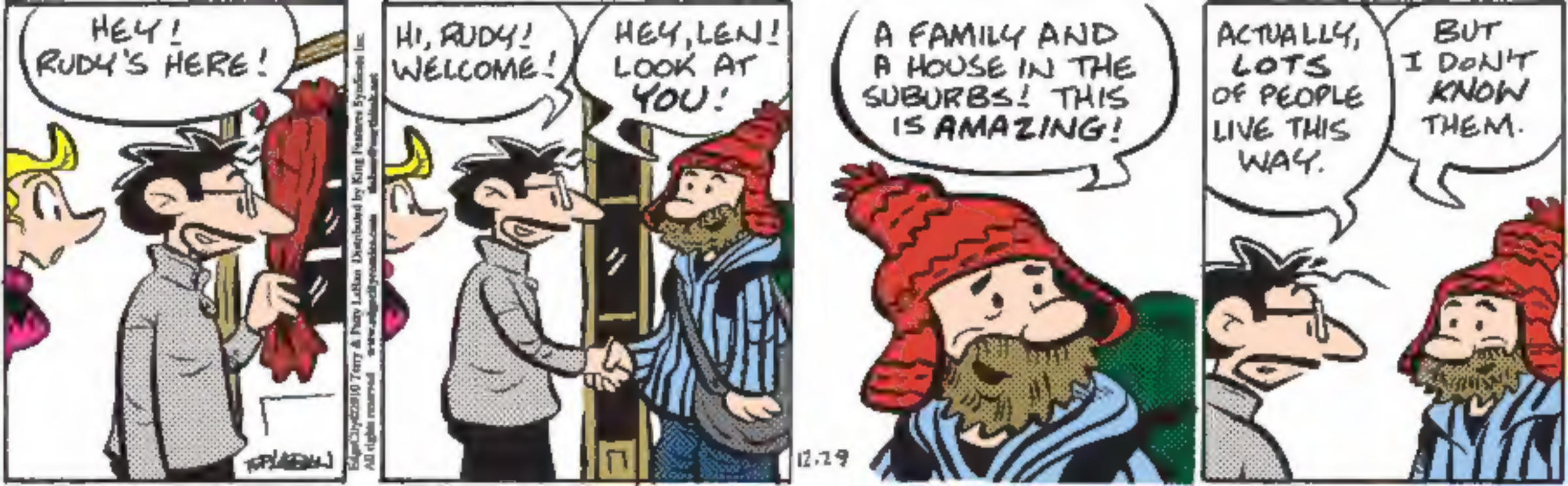
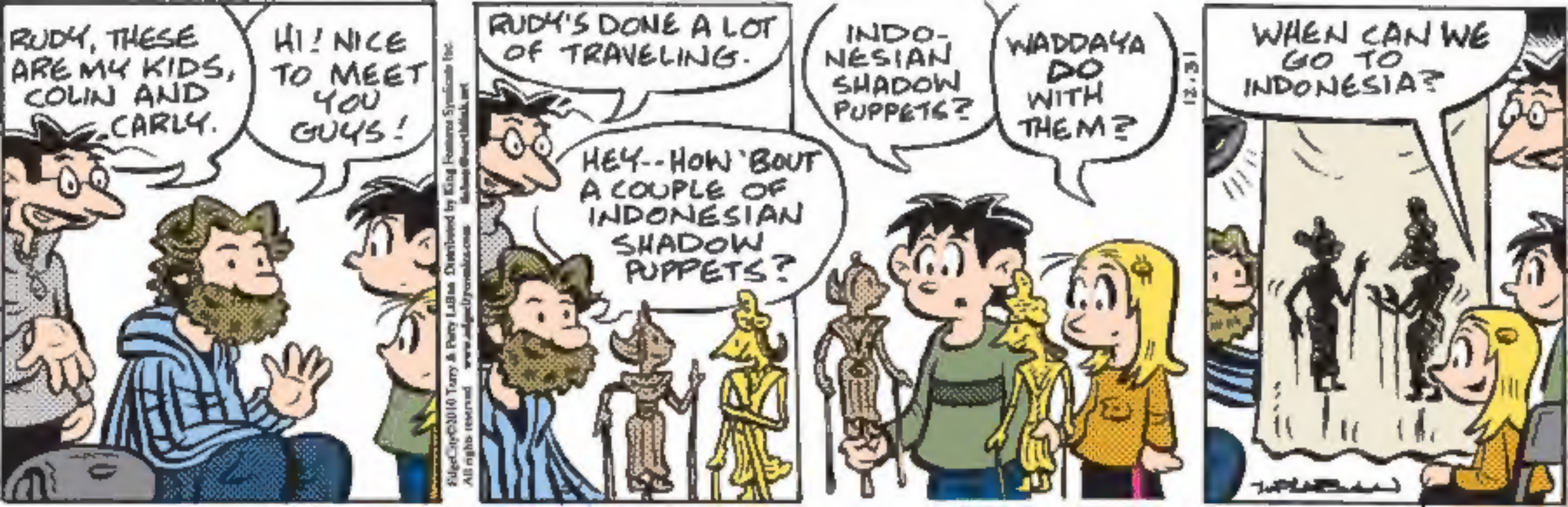



HEY! RUDY'S HERE!
HI, RUDY! WELCOME!
HEY, LEN! LOOK AT YOU!
A FAMILY AND A HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS! THIS IS AMAZING!
ACTUALLY, LOTS OF PEOPLE LIVE THIS WAY.
BUT I DON'T KNOW THEM.
12.29

RUDY, THIS IS MY WIFE, ABBY.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, ABBY.
Y'KNOW, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE A DANCER I KNEW IN NICE.
OH, YEAH?
I CAN PICTURE YOU IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SUNLIGHT WITH THE GENTLE WAVES BEHIND.
OOOH! IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO!
12.30



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